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# PROCEEDINGS AND ORDINANCES

OF THE

# PRIVY COUNCIL OF ENGLAND

VOLUME VI.

## 2 HENRY VI. MCCCCXLIII.

TO

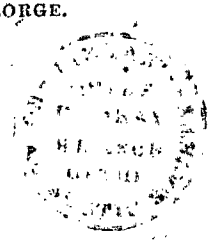
## 39 HENRY VI. MCCCCLXI.

110216

EDITED BY

SIR HARRIS NICOLAS,

CHANCELLOR AND KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT GEORGE.



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ON

# *THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE KINGDOM,*

APPOINTED BY

## HIS MAJESTY'S COMMISSION

OF THE

## 12*th of March* 1831.

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HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD BROUGHAM AND VAUX.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD CLERK REGISTER OF SCOTLAND.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EARL SPENCER, K. G.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF ABERDEEN, K. T.
THE RIGHT REVEREND THE LORD BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THOMAS GRENVILLE.
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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HENRY HOBHOUSE.
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HENRY HALLAM, ESQUIRE.
JOHN ALLEN, ESQUIRE.
EDWARD PROTHEROE, ESQUIRE.
EDWARD VERNON UTTERSON, ESQUIRE.
WILLIAM BROUGHAM, ESQUIRE.

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CHARLES PURTON COOPER, ESQUIRE, SECRETARY.

# PREFACE.

IT was stated in the Preface to the First Volume that this work would contain such Proceedings of the King's Council from the time of King Richard the Second to the close of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, as are preserved in the British Museum; and this volume, which is the last of that series, consists of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Privy Council between the 26th of August, 22 Hen. VI. 1443, and the 28th of January, 39 Hen. VI. 1460.

The General Register, or, as it was termed, "Book of the Council," does not appear to have been continued after the 13th Hen. VI. 1435; and from that time until the latter part of the reign of King Henry the Eighth no regular record of its Proceedings is preserved; and all which can be done is, therefore, to collect the few scattered papers that are now extant.

Though by no means so numerous or important as might be expected, many of the articles in the following sheets are, nevertheless, of con-

siderable Historical value, and some of them tend to illustrate points of Constitutional law. Of the former as much will be said as may appear necessary to bring the information they contain to the notice of Historians, whilst advantage will be taken of the latter, to submit some remarks on the Office of KING'S SECRETARY or SECRETARY OF STATE, and of KING'S CHAMBERLAIN, about which little, it may almost be said nothing, has hitherto been written. Although the same observation cannot be applied to the GREAT SEAL and to the KING'S other SEALS, it is nevertheless presumed that the facts which will be found respecting them, and the observations which will be made on the responsibility of the Lord Chancellor and Lord Privy Seal, in reference to the King's grants, will fully justify the digression on those subjects, inasmuch as many of those facts escaped the attention of Lord Coke, Selden, and Prynne, and are absolutely necessary to render some of the Proceedings of the Council properly understood.

22 Hen.VI. 1443.

The only Proceedings of the Council in the 22nd of Henry the Sixth, 1443, of any interest, are those which relate to the affairs of Brittany, and to the Earl of Suffolk's appointment, as chief of an embassy to negociate a peace with France.

Francis duke of Brittany succeeded his father John the Sixth, on the 28th of August 1442, and he soon after sent his brother Giles (who came to England about ten years before, for the purpose of

being brought up with Henry the Sixth[1]) and other Ambassadors to this country, to renew the claim of his ancestors to the Earldom of Richmond.[2] On the 26th of August 1443, at Henley on the Heath, the King gave his answers to the propositions submitted by the Breton Ambassadors. After expressing his satisfaction at the arrival of Giles of Brittany, he stated, in reply to the demand that the Duke should have the Earldom of Richmond on rendering homage for it by proxy, that he had never before heard of the Duke's pretensions; but that, wishing to render justice to every one, he would cause the records to be examined, and if the claim was well founded he would willingly receive his homage for the Earldom, according to the laws and customs of England. He thanked the Duke for offering to use his good offices in promoting a peace between this country and France, and reminded him, as well as all other Catholic Princes, of the efforts which had been made by his father and himself to obtain that object. He assured him that he would always be ready to listen to any pacific overtures; that he gladly accepted the Duke's mediation; and Henry added, that he intended to send his Ambassadors to France, who would declare to him the earnest desire which he felt to put an end to

22 Hen. VI. 1443.

[1] *Vide* Proceedings of the Privy Council, vol. iv. pp. xlix, lxxviii, 128, 151, 181; and *postea*, p. 16. Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 48.

[2] *Vide* Proceedings of the Privy Council, vol. i. pp. 6, 17, 37, 43-45, 47, 49, 64, 91.

22 Hen.VI. 1443. the war, promising, in the event of peace, that the Duke should be honorably included in the treaty.

To the Duke of Brittany's demand for restitution of seizures made by the English from the Bretons, the King replied, that he had received repeated complaints from his subjects of the aggressions of the Bretons, about which he had often written to the late Duke, as well as to himself, but that he had not heard of any satisfaction having been rendered for them; and that though three years before Commissioners were appointed on both sides to settle these matters, nothing had been done on the part of the Duke. Nevertheless, Henry proposed that Commissioners should again be appointed, and that proclamations should be immediately issued in all the sea-ports of their respective dominions, forbidding their subjects respectively, to offer any molestation or injury to those of the other party.[1]

Some weeks afterwards, the King informed the Breton Ambassadors that he had caused all the records to be carefully examined respecting the Earldom of Richmond, and that it clearly appeared that it had been held by King Edward the Third, who bestowed it upon his son the Duke of Lancaster, by whom it was enjoyed for some time, and who, for certain considerations, restored it to King Richard the Second; that it was assigned by that Monarch to Anne his Queen

[1] pp. 1-7, *postea.*

as part of her dowry, and that on her decease it reverted to the Crown, in the person of King Henry the Fourth; but that if, nevertheless, the Duke of Brittany could shew a right title to the Earldom, full justice should be done to him. To the Duke's proposal, that his brother Giles should represent him in performing homage for that territory, Henry replied that he was very desirous of shewing the Duke every favour which was properly in his power, but that, according to the most ancient laws and customs in England, whoever owed him homage must perform it in person; and that neither he nor his predecessors had ever received it in any other manner, even from their sons, their brothers, or the nearest of their lineage; and he repeated his promise that Brittany should be included in any treaty of peace with France.[1] 22 Hen. VI. 1443.

Another memoir on behalf of the Duke of Brittany was submitted to the Council, towards the close of the year, which stated that the King of France had written to request that the Duke would be present when the Earl of Suffolk and Henry's other Ambassadors arrived, to assist in concluding a peace; and he promised him that he should be comprised in the treaty, and his rank guaranteed in the same manner, as to other Lords of his blood; but the Duke said he had deferred complying with the French Monarch's wishes until he knew Henry's pleasure on the subject. The

[1] pp. 7-9, *postea*.

22 Hen. VI. 1443. Duke of Brittany then represented, that, notwithstanding the peace, the Duke of Somerset had entered his dominions with numerous soldiers, and had committed many and enormous cruelties, as though Brittany were a conquered country, although the English had been received as friends and allies; that they had pillaged and destroyed the town of La Guerche[1], and had refused to quit Brittany unless the Duke gave Somerset twenty thousand crowns, of which sum ten thousand had actually been paid, and bonds granted for the payment of the remainder before Christmas; and the Duke said he had consented to that agreement only to prevent a continuance of such aggressions on his people, hoping that when the King became aware of the facts he would cause restitution to be made, inasmuch as such aggressions were contrary to the existing treaty.[2]

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[1] *Vide* Lobineau's Histoire de Bretagne, tome I. p. 623.

[2] pp. 11-13, *postea*. A letter, dated on the 2nd of December, from the Council to the Duke of Brittany, which was sent by Garter King of Arms, occurs among the preceding documents, and has therefore been printed with them (p. 13, *postea*), but it is not certain that it belongs to the same year; and as the subject to which it relates is not noticed in the other letters and proceedings, it is more likely to be a copy of a letter written in December, 11 Hen. VI., 1433, when it was intended to send Garter to the Duke of Brittany. *Vide* Proceedings of the Council, vol. iv. pp. 136, 146, 147.

The Council complained in that letter, in the strongest terms, of the outrages which the Duke's people had committed on the King's English and French subjects, both by land and sea, especially on those employed in fishing; that whenever they found a vessel with only a few persons on board, they entered her, and either cruelly murdered the crew, threw them overboard, or placed them in such close confinement ("crueuses, horri-

The Council took the Duke of Brittany's remonstrance into consideration on the 12th of December. In reply to his intimation that the King of France wished him to be present during the negociation for peace, they referred him to his Majesty's former letter on the subject; but that letter, which was not written until the 17th of the same month, contains little besides verbose assurances that the Duke should be included in the treaty with France.[1] His complaints against the Duke of Somerset were sent to that nobleman, 22 Hen. VI. 1443.

" bles, et estroittes prisons") that some died of the excessive hardships to which they were exposed, whilst others offered such exorbitant ransoms to escape from their torments that it was impossible to raise the money, and that on failing to pay it, they were dragged through the streets and public places, amidst the jeers of the populace, and then inhumanly put to death; that the holy sacraments had been denied to those who died, and their bodies refused Christian burial; that the survivors were so heavily ironed that their limbs had mortified; and, in short, that cruelties had been perpetrated which Christians had not even met with from Saracens. The Council expressed their opinion that the Duke's subjects had consented to the peace for their own advantage only, and with the view of deceiving others; that the King did not suppose that he could be aware of these excesses, because it would tend too greatly to his dishonor if he knew of them and did not provide a remedy; that the Council could not possibly submit to such conduct without dishonor to their Sovereign and his realm, and offence to the Almighty, because the blood of the victims cried to them unceasingly for vengeance. The Duke was therefore requested immediately to inform the Council, by the bearer, whether those facts had been done with his knowledge and assent; and, if not, that he would with all haste take such measures for preventing the repetition of them as would be satisfactory to God and their Sovereign; and he was desired to give his answer so speedily, as it might appease the people of this country, or produce such arrangements as God might suggest. (pp. 13-16, *postea.*)

[1] p. 20, *postea.*

22 Hen. VI. 1443. with the expression of the King's serious displeasure; and he was commanded to repair all the injuries which had been committed by his troops, and forbidden, in the most positive manner, to permit them to be repeated.[1]

In these communications with the Duke of Brittany, it seems to have been the policy of the Government to conciliate him as much as possible; and, with the intention of attaching him still more closely to the interests of England, the Council were extremely anxious to secure the services of his brother Giles. Letters were written by the King to that personage; and Lord Sudeley was sent to him with various offers to induce him to comply with their wishes. He accordingly came to England, and soon after gave a written reply to their propositions. To the inquiry as to what services he would render the King, he said that it was not for him to choose, but for his Majesty to command. Being asked whether he would serve the King in peace and war, he declared that he should be happy to serve him in any manner, saving his own honor, provided a suitable maintenance were granted to him, so that it might not be necessary for him to seek one elsewhere; for if he once took up arms for the King he should be precluded from obtaining support from other Princes. He expressed much surprise at its being proposed to him to swear to certain

[1] p. 23, *postea*.

strong obligations, because, he said, that having always manifested the best intentions towards the King, and having served him without pay, the more Henry bestowed upon him the more obliged he should consider himself; adding, that he desired to serve him more in deeds than in words. He said, that although the offers which had been made to him were greater than his merits, they were nevertheless insufficient to maintain his rank, with regard either to the King's honor or his own, as he should be compelled to relinquish all other advantages; but that, in submission to Henry's pleasure, and to gratify his desire to see his Majesty, he had purposely come to England; and he concluded by entreating a speedy decision upon these matters.[1] 22 Hen. VI. 1443.

The subject having been taken into consideration by the Council, an annual pension of one thousand marks was assigned to him; and a gold cup of the value of one hundred marks, filled with one hundred pounds, was presented to him by the King's express commands; a silver cup, one hundred crowns, and a piece of damask cloth being at the same time given to one of the Duke of Brit-

[1] pp. 9-11, *postea*. For an account of the unhappy fate of Giles of Brittany, who became the victim of his attachment to the interests of England, see "L'art de vérifier les Dates," tome iii. p. 908; Monstrelet, ed. 1586, tome iii. p. 31[b]; and the Rolls of Parliament, vol. v. p. 179. Monstrelet states that Giles of Brittany had offended his brother the Duke of Brittany and the King of France, by accepting the Order of the Garter from Henry the Sixth; but he is not included in the lists of the Knights of that Order by Ashmole or Anstis.

22 Hen. VI. 1443. tany's Ambassadors.[1] As the claim to the Earldom of Richmond does not appear to have been again brought forward, the Duke was probably aware that his pretensions would not be admitted.

1444. It has long been known, from an instrument printed by Rymer, that William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, one of the most eminent statesmen of the time, either felt, or pretended to feel, great reluctance in undertaking the management of the negociation for a peace with France, to which embassy he was appointed on the 11th of February 1444[2]; and that he obtained letters patent on the 20th of that month, pardoning every error of judgment which he might commit on the occasion.[3] Historians have imputed Suffolk's conduct, not, as he professed, to a sense of his own inability, but to the fear of the Duke of Gloucester's resentment, or more probably, to apprehensions of certain articles of a treaty concluded by Henry the Fifth and confirmed by Parliament, which made it a high offence in any man to conclude a peace with Charles, except with the consent of the three estates of both realms.[4] The Minutes of the Council of the 1st of February, eleven days before Suffolk's appointment, contain, however, the reasons which he himself assigned for his unwillingness to be one of the Ambassadors to

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[1] pp. 16, 17, *postea.* [2] Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 60, 63. [3] *Ibid.* p. 53.

[4] Lingard's History of England, vol. v. p. 57. This provision was declared null and void by Parliament in the 23rd Hen. VI. Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 102, 103.

France. Addressing himself to the King, in a Council held at Westminster, at which Gloucester and nearly all the other members were present, Suffolk reminded his Majesty that he had become known to the French Princes, and other personages of distinction, when he was a prisoner in France, and that he had had many conversations with the Duke of Orleans whilst the Duke was in his custody in England, which he thought rendered it improper that he should be employed in the proposed embassy, especially as the French themselves had suggested his appointment to it. He said that these facts had exposed him to public animadversion in London, since it was known that he was selected for that mission; that some Lords of great influence and property had been employed on similar negociations, who had performed their duty with wisdom and prudence, but who had nevertheless been censured by the people, as well as in Parliaments and elsewhere, "full heavily to their 'great charge and burthen in all;" and that if this were to happen to him it would be insupportable, on account of the difference between their "estates" and his own. 22 Hen. VI. 1444.

The Lord Chancellor, by the King's command, then acquainted Suffolk that it was his Majesty's pleasure he should proceed on the embassy; upon which he requested that, since such was the King's orders, he might be associated with "sad and circumspect men," and with such as could and would "bear with him for the King's

22 Hen.VI. 1444. "worship," so that the French might perceive, that though the embassy consisted only "of men of easy "degree and few in number," yet that they possessed the necessary ability. He further desired, in the event of the negociation not being successful, "that therefore no charge be laid upon him, neither "that he therefore run into any danger or heaviness "of the King, nor on any other behalf nor wise, "but that he may stand alway in the King's good "conceit and grace." The Chancellor replied, by the King's command and with the advice of the Council, that in case the mission failed, no charge should be laid by his Majesty, his heirs, councillors, officers, or any of his people, upon Suffolk, his heirs or executors, nor upon any person going in the said embassy; "neither that "therefore he run into any danger or heaviness of "him, nor on any other behalf nor wise, and will "that in this behalf he should stand in his good "conceit and grace; and furthermore the King "willed him and commanded such charge as he "would lay upon him that he should receive it, "take it, and execute it." Suffolk then thanked the King, said he would obey his commands, and desired letters patent to that effect, which were accordingly granted.[1]

This document throws some light upon a transaction which has hitherto been very mysterious. It is evident that the people disapproved of Suf-

[1] pp. 33-35, *postea*.

folk's being chosen to conduct the treaty, on account of his supposed connection with the French interests, and that he fully expected the obloquy by which he was afterwards assailed for consenting to do so. Dr. Lingard's conjecture[1] does not seem well grounded, because Suffolk did not allude to the Act of Parliament before mentioned; and the Duke of Gloucester appears not only to have approved of his appointment, but to have joined with the other members of the Council in pressing it upon him. The most curious fact connected with the affair relates, however, to Henry's marriage. It does not appear from their Commission that the Ambassadors were to negociate an alliance of that nature, nor is it expressly adverted to either in Suffolk's address to the Council, or in the King's answers to his several requests. But there can be little doubt that the "charge" which the King specially commanded him to "receive, take, " and execute," and which is obscurely alluded to in the Chancellor's answers, referred to the marriage, because in the letters patent which were issued to Suffolk, the following words occur: " Volumus quod " ob integerrimum illud et singulare nostræ mentis " desiderium ad bonum pacis, *personæque nostræ* " *matrimonium*,"[2] &c., a fact which, as Rapin[3] has well observed, shews that the accusation subsequently brought against Suffolk, of having con- 22 Hen. VI. 1444.

[1] p. x, *antea*.

[2] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 53.

[3] Ed. 1732, vol. i. p. 568.

22 Hen.VI. 1444. tracted that alliance without sufficient authority, was unfounded. Nor was it one of the crimes of which he was impeached by the Commons, in 1450, though he was then accused by them of having "above his instructions and powers" promised to the King of Sicily, the Queen's father, the deliverance of the provinces of Maunce and Maine.[1]

It is far from improbable that Suffolk was really unwilling to undertake the mission to France, on account of the suspicion which existed of his bias towards the French interests; that he foresaw the King's marriage with Margaret of Anjou would not be popular in this country; and that he was aware his connection with the alliance would increase the clamour against him.

Although that affair was only indirectly alluded to in the Privy Council, Suffolk nevertheless contrived to get it expressly mentioned in the patent, thereby securing himself from danger for having negociated it. The Council seem, therefore, to have determined upon the measure, though the whole obloquy was thrown upon the agent whom they employed; and Suffolk displayed sagacity and prudence in endeavouring to cast the responsibility upon those who had sanctioned, even if they had not originally proposed the marriage. If it be admitted that Suffolk did not act without authority, it is reasonable, (in ignorance of his instructions,) to infer that he had also the necessary powers for

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 178.

accomplishing the object, upon the terms which were afterwards made the grounds of his impeachment. His caution at the commencement of the mission was strikingly displayed; and it is unlikely that he should have afterwards committed the imprudence, if not the treason, which has been imputed to him. 22 Hen. VI. 1444.

A truce was concluded with France at Tours on the 28th of May 1444, to subsist from the 1st of June in that year to the 1st of April 1446, in which, according to the promise of Henry's ministers[1], Brittany was comprised; though, according to the Historian of that province[2], they made a pretence to include the Duke, as a subject of the English Crown, with the view of establishing a right to the Duchy.[3]

In October 1444, Henry was contracted by proxy at Nancy to Margaret of Anjou, daughter of Renè titular King of Sicily and Jerusalem; and Suffolk, who had been raised to a Marquisate on the 14th of September preceding, was his Sovereign's representative on the occasion. Towards the end of the year, Commissioners were sent into several counties to borrow money for the expences of conducting the Queen to England, and for her coronation.[4] Suffolk escorted the royal bride to this country in April in the following year. She 23 Hen. VI. 1444. 1445.

[1] p. v, *antea*.

[2] Lobineau, tome i. p. 623.

[3] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 64.

[4] *See* their Instructions in pp. 322-325, *postea*.

23 Hen.VI. 1445. was married to the King in person at Titchfield on the 22nd of that month[1], and was crowned at Westminster on the 30th of May.

The Marquess of Suffolk, not content with the protection which he had already received, induced the Commons to petition the King, on the 4th of June 1445, in his favor. After pointing out his eminent services, particularly in concluding the recent truce with France, in promoting the King's

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[1] It appears from the following curious letter from the King to the Lord Chancellor, that the Queen was taken ill upon her arrival in England:

"By the King.

"Right reverend fader in God, right trusty and right wel-
"beloved, We grete you wel, and suppose that ye have wel in
"knowleche, how that oure moost dere and best beloved wyf the
"Quene is yet seke of the labour and indisposiĉon of the see,
"by occasion of which the pokkes been broken out upon hir,
"for which cause we may not in oure own personne holde the
"feste of Saint George at oure castel of Wyndesore, upon Saint
"Georgę day next cōmyng. Wherfore we wol þt ye make owt
"our̄ lres of coīmission, under oure greet seel in due forme yeving
"power by the same unto oure right trusty and entirely wel-
"beloved cousins the Duke of Excestre and Bukę, and eyther of
"theym, to holde the sayd feste in oure behalve at þe day and
"place abovesayd, with othr lordes t knightę of the gartier
"such as we have coīanded to be there, and that herinne be no
"defaulte as our̄ greet trust is in you. Yeven under our signet
"at Southwyk, the xvj. day of Avril.

"To the right reverend fader in God oure right trusty
"t right welbeloved tharchebissop of Canterbury,
"oure Chancellr of Englande."

Ex. Orig. in Turr. London. This letter is printed in the introduction to Anstis' Register of the Order of the Garter.

marriage, and in conducting the Queen, at his own expence, to England, they prayed the Lords to beseech His Majesty to "repute, accept, declare, " and take" him to his grace; and desired that the declarations which he had made to the Lords two days before, together with his labours and conduct, might be enacted in that Parliament, "to " his true acquittal, and discharge and honor of " him in time to come." The Duke of Gloucester and many other Lords then rose from their seats, and supported the request of the Commons, to which the King, through the Chancellor, granted his most gracious assent; and it was so enacted accordingly.[1] This proceeding, which is one of the most solemn and complete ratifications by Parliament of the conduct of a Minister upon record, did not, however, protect him from impeachment a few years afterwards for the very measures which the Legislature had thus formally sanctioned and approved. 23 Hen. VI. 1445.

The earliest of the few records extant of the Proceedings of the Council in the 24th of Henry VI. are some letters dated in March 1446, respecting the conduct of a Friar of Coventry, of the name of John Bredon, who had preached against the right claimed by the Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church of St. Mary in that City, that the bodies of those who died within its precincts 24 Hen. VI. 1446.

[1] Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 73, 74.

24 Hen. VI. 1446. should be first brought to that Church with "ap- "parel of wax," and then buried wherever the deceased might have directed; and that the said "apparel of wax" should become the property of the Cathedral. Bredon asserted, on the contrary, that all offerings belonged to those who administered the sacraments to the parishioners, and that neither the Pope "nor all the world" could compel a man to offer any thing in the Cathedral Church, or prevent a free man from disposing by his will of the lights which surrounded his corpse. He therefore advised the people to bear the lights to whatever Church they pleased, adding that there was not so "bond" a city in England as Coventry in that respect, or so covetous a place as the Priory of Coventry, and that no usage could make a prejudicial custom lawful. It seems that he had also attached bills to the Church doors, promising to deliver the City from the thraldom of Pharoah. As soon as the Council were apprised of his conduct, they adopted very summary measures against him. He was commanded instantly to quit Coventry, and to place himself at the disposition of his Superior, who was directed to remove him from his Convent to some other of the Order, forty or fifty miles distant, and to forbid him from entering that City again. A serjeant-at-arms was dispatched to the Mayor of Coventry, ordering him to compel the contumelious Friar to read a recantation, which was forwarded by the same messenger, on two festival days, from the pulpits of all the Churches

there, on pain of imprisonment should he refuse, 24 Hen. VI. 1446.
or say more or less than was set down for him. In the letter to the Minister Provincial of the Friars Minors of England on that occasion, it is said that the King was bound to support the rights of the Cathedral of Coventry, because "We be their Sove-
" reign Lord and Patron, and forasmuch as We
" would have all our subjects to live in rest and
" peace after God's law and ours, and nothing to
" be shewed or preached unto them but that that
" might sowne [tend] to good, and be to rest and
" weal of Our people."[1]

It having been determined that Henry should proceed to France in the ensuing October, to treat in person with Charles for a final peace between the two Countries, Commissioners were sent into Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex, and Herts in July, to raise money for the King's expences, he being then, as their instructions state, in his "greatest
" necessity."[2]

Fragments of the original Minutes of the Council in the latter part of July 1446 are preserved; but the only material facts shewn by them are, that the citizens of London had remonstrated against certain taxes and other grievances, among which was the erection of several places wherein people played "at the ball, cleche, and dice;" that the Council wished the convention between the Kings of England and France to be held on the

[1] pp. 40-45, *postea*.

[2] pp. 46-51, *postea*; *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 139, 150, 157.

24 Hen. VI. 1446. river between Maunt and Melant; that Eleanor Cobham, the wife of the Duke of Gloucester, was ordered to be conveyed to the Isle of Man, in custody of Sir Thomas Stanley; that ships were impressed for the King's voyage to France; and that the Earl of Ormond, who was accused of treason by the Prior of Kilmaine in Ireland[1], was strictly prohibited from going above forty miles from London, without the King's permission, except on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, and he was likewise directed to be ready to appear before the Council whenever be should be summoned to do so, which directions he swore to obey.[2]

25 Hen. VI. 1446. Upon the affairs of this country in the 25th of Henry VI. scarcely any information is afforded by the few scanty notices of the Privy Council which have been collected in this volume. Towards the end of 1446, the public, or rather the inhabitants of London, were deeply interested in two personal combats, which are noticed by nearly all contemporary Chroniclers. Very minute particulars of these affairs[3] (which, though not important, are nevertheless curious from shewing the consideration which was then attached to such subjects) occur in several documents now printed from the originals in the British Museum.

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[1] Fabian, ed. 1811, p. 618; Stow, p. 385; Chronicle of London, p. 134, and *postea*.

[2] pp. 50, 54, *postea*.

[3] See the account of another duel in the 31st Hen. VI. p. 129, *postea*.

An apprentice to an armourer of London, having accused his master of treason, the parties agreed to appeal to arms, under the authority of the Constable and Earl Marshal. The King commanded the Serjeant of his Armoury, in November in that year, to furnish the appellant with the requisite weapons and armour; and two Knights, two Esquires, and an armourer were severally assigned to him, and to the defendant, "to be intendant and "of council" to them.[1] The combat took place at Smithfield, and the master was slain, in consequence of his friends having given him too much wine.[2] 25 Hen. VI. 1446.

The other duel was between two persons of much greater importance; and it is a remarkable circumstance that one of them was an ecclesiastic of rank. Fitz Thomas, Prior of Kilmaine, having impeached the Earl of Ormond of high treason[3], and both having appealed to arms, a day was appointed to decide the quarrel. In the mean time Ormond, who was then a prisoner in the Tower, obtained permission to remain near Smithfield "for "his breathing and more ease," to prepare himself for the fight; and the Prior, being unused to mortal weapons, wisely took lessons in the art of defence of one Philip Treher, a fishmonger of London, whose services were paid by the Crown.[4] This duel did not, however, end fatally, for the King forbad the parties to proceed to extremities, though

[1] pp. 55-57, *postea.*

[2] Stow's Chronicle, p. 385; Fabian, p. 618; Hall, ed. 1809, p. 207.

[3] *Vide* p. xx, *antea.*

[4] pp. 55-59, *postea.*

25 Hen.VI. 1446. they had actually met for the purpose, and took the affair into his own hands.

1447. The only Minutes of the Council in the year 1447 are of the 19th of March, whence it appears, among other matters, that the Scots had broken the truce; that the garrison of Berwick was discontented; and that the members of the Privy Council were summoned to be present when the French Ambassadors arrived.[1]

26 Hen.VI. 1447-8. No records of the Council in the 26th Hen. VI., 1447-1448, have been discovered; and the few which are preserved relating to the 27th of Henry

27 Hen.VI. 1448. VI. are by no means important. The earliest of that year contain the answers which were given, on the 30th of October 1448, to some questions submitted, on the part of the Duke of Somerset, lieutenant-governor of France, respecting the mode of proceeding in certain points connected with the embassy to negociate a peace with Charles the Seventh, but they are not very material.[2] In consequence of the aggressions of the Scotch, the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Westmoreland, and five Barons and others, were excused, on the 3rd

1449. of February 1449, from attending the Parliament which was to meet on the 12th of that month; and they were commanded to remain in the North for the security of the Marches.[3]

Commissioners were sent to the Duchess of Burgundy, in March 1449, to remonstrate against

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[1] pp. 60, 61, *postea.* [2] pp. 62, 63, *postea.* [3] p. 65, *postea.*

an ordinance which she had made, that no English cloth should be sold in her dominions, of which serious complaints had been made in Parliament; and they were also directed to advert to the assembling of soldiers and warlike stores at St. Omer, and endeavour to ascertain its object.[1] This mission does not appear to have been successful; and in July, Ambassadors were sent to the Duchess. They were principally directed to complain of various infringements of the truce, by the imprisonment and ill-usage of some merchants, the King's subjects, on whose release, with full restitution of their property, they were to insist. The prohibition of English cloths was the next point which the Ambassadors were to bring under the Duchess's consideration; and they were ordered to inform her that Parliament had passed an Act, declaring that, unless the ordinance in question was withdrawn, no merchandize should be imported into England from any part of her dominions.[2] 27 Hen.VI. 1449.

So much excitement was created in London by the prohibition to sell cloth of English manufacture in Holland, that the Duchess's subjects in the metropolis were assaulted by the populace; and in June, the Mayor and Sheriffs of London were commanded to take measures for their safety.[3]

The discontent produced by the cession of the provinces of Anjou and Maine, the loss of 28 Hen.VI. 1449.

[1] p. 69, *postea.* [2] pp. 76-85, *postea.* [3] pp. 74, 75, *postea.*

28 Hen. VI. 1449. Rouen and of all Normandy, the suspicious death of the Duke of Gloucester, and by the universal dislike to the Marquess of Suffolk, at length broke out into open rebellion. To use the forcible words of a modern Historian, "every tongue was employed in bewailing the fallen glory of England, "and every place resounded with cries of vengeance "on the head of the minister."[1] Satirical verses, reflecting, in the severest manner, upon Suffolk and his colleagues, were generally distributed, in which the state of the country was lamented, and he himself covertly accused of having seduced the Duke of Norfolk and other Peers to his designs.[2]

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[1] Lingard, vol. v. p. 171.

[2] Some of these verses, of which the following are specimens, are still preserved. The persons alluded to are described by their badges, and their names are written over, in a contemporary hand. A fuller account of these allusions will be found in the Excerpta Historica, where they were first printed, p. 159, *et seq.* Other verses of the same description will be found in Ritson's Ancient Songs and Ballads, and in the Excerpta Historica, pp. 279, 357. Some satirical verses of a political nature, written about 1399, are printed in the Archæologia, vol. xxi. p. 89.

The Rote[1] is ded, the Swanne[2] is goon',
The firy Cressett[3] hath lost his lyght,
Therfore Inglond may make gret mone,
Were not the helpe of Godde Almyght'.
The Castell[4] is wonne, where care begown';
The Portecolys[5] is leyde a down';
Iclosid we haue oure welevette Hatte[6],
That keu'yd us from mony stormys brewn'.
The White Lion'[7] is leyde to slepe,
Thorou3 the envy of the Ape clogge[8];

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[1] Duke of Bedford.
[2] Duke of Gloucester.
[3] Duke of Exeter.
[4] Rouen.
[5] Duke of Somerset.
[6] Cardinal Wolsey, who died in 1447.
[7] Duke of Norfolk.
[8] Duke of Suffolk.

In February 1450, proclamations were issued 28 Hen. VI. 1450.
in London, Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, forbidding

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And he is bown'den' that our' dor' shuld kepe,
That is Talbott our' good dogge.[1]
The fissher' hath lost his Hangulhook'[2];
Gete theym agayn' when it woll' be.
Our' Myllesaylle[3] will' not abowte,
Hit hath so long' goon' emptye.
The Ber[4] is boun'd that was so wild,
For he hath lost his Ragged Staff.
The Carte[5] nathe is spokeles,
For the coun'seill' that he gaff';
The Lily[6] is both fair' and grene;
The Coun'dite[7] rennyth not as I wene;
The Cornysshe chawgh[8] offt wt his trayne
Hath made our' Egull'[9] blynde.
The White hard[10] is put out of mynde,
Be cause he woll' not to hem consent;
Therfor' the Cōmyns saith is both trew and kynd,
Bothe in Southesex and in Kent.
The Watr Bowge[11] and the Wyne botell',
With the Vetturlocks cheyne[12] ben' fast;
The Whete yer'[13] woll' theym' susteyn'
As long' as he may endur' and last.
The Boor'[14] is farr' in to the west
That shold vs helpe wt shild and sper';
The Fawkon'[15] fleyth, and hath no rest,
Tille he witte wher' to bigge his nest.

From a contemporary Roll in the British Museum, marked in the Catalogue of the Cottonian Charters, II. 23.

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1 Earl of Shrewsbury.
2 Lord Fauconberg.
3 Lord Willoughby.
4 Earl of Warwick.
5 Duke of Buckingham.
6 Thomas Daniel, an esquire of the King's body.
7 John Norreys, an esquire of the King's body.
8 John Trevilian, esquire.
9 The King.
10 The Earl of Arundel.
11 Henry Lord Bourchier.
12 The Prior of St. John's.
13 "Exeter." Apparently Edmond Lacy bishop of Exeter.
14 Earl of Devonshire.
15 Duke of York.

28 Hen. VI. 1450. all persons, except Lords, Knights, and eminent Esquires, from wearing arms or carrying weapons of any kind[1]; and about the same time the civil authorities of Canterbury, Maidstone, Oxford, and other cities and towns, were thanked for forwarding to the King some letters which they had received, respecting assemblies of the people, "under "untrue faines and pretense colours of intending "to the common weal of the land; whereas, "as God knoweth, the intend of those that so "labour is to the subversion thereof." The said authorities were forbidden to give any credence to those statements, whatever might be the rank of the persons from whom they proceeded; and they were strictly commanded, not to suffer any assemblies or gatherings of the populace, or to admit them within the places under their jurisdiction.[2] On the 14th of April the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex were directed to make a proclamation against the dissemination of false and seditious rumours, bills, and defamatory libels, many of which had been affixed to the doors of Churches, and in other places.[3]

Although Suffolk had fallen a victim to public resentment, on the 2nd of May[4], when he was murdered on board a vessel on the coast of Kent,

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 262.

[2] p. 91, *postea.*

[3] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 268.

[4] See a very interesting account of the Duke of Suffolk's death, in a letter in the Paston Correspondence, vol. i. p. 38.

the spirit of rebellion was not quelled. The Commons of Kent rose almost in a body, and placed themselves under the leadership of an Irish adventurer of the name of John Cade, a "young man," says Hall[1], "of a goodly stature and pregnant "wit," who pretended to be a cousin of the Duke, and called himself Mortimer, alleging that he was illegitimately descended from Roger Mortimer, Earl of March.[2] Cade and his followers advanced towards the metropolis, and about the middle of June arrived at Blackheath. The Government shewed no want of energy on the occasion. Its first act was to dissolve the Parliament, which was then sitting at Leicester; and the King having immediately returned to London, attended by many Lords and twenty thousand men, took up his quar- 28 Hen.VI. 1450.

[1] Ed. 1809, p. 220.

[2] Gascoigne's MS., Vitellius, C. IX., in the Cottonian Collection, cited by Mr. Sharon Turner, vol. iii. p. 185. In the proclamation for his apprehension, Cade is said to have been born in Ireland, and to have lived some time in Sussex. It recites, that he was born in Ireland; that he had during the year preceding lived in Sussex with Sir Thomas Dogre; that he had there slain a woman with child, and had fled to a church for safety, and afterwards went abroad; that, some years before, he had joined the French party and dwelt with them, and now came to England to enrich himself with robbing and despoiling the King's liege men. Stow, p. 391.

According to a Roll in the Cottonian collection of Charters, quoted in Ellis's Original Letters, second series, vol. i. p. 112, containing the names of persons indicted at Rochester in August 1451, Cade was likewise called Mr. John Alymere, physician; and it is there said that he had married a "squire's daughter of Taundede." Stow says he was also called John *Amendall*, a name evidently derived from the object

28 Hen.VI. 1450. ters at St. John's Hospital near Smithfield.[1] The particulars and result of Cade's rebellion[2] are too well known to require any further allusion to it, than to notice the information which the articles in this volume afford. The first of those papers is a list of the artillery with which Henry took the field at Blackheath on the 20th of June, and which consisted of nine large "rebaudkins," requiring the attendance of thirty persons, consisting of gunners, carpenters, smiths, and masons.[3] The Tower of London was ordered to be victualled, and put in a state of defence on the 30th of June[3]; and, on the following day, Commissioners were appointed to array the inhabitants of Cheshire and Lancashire.[4]

On the 12th of July the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer were ordered to seize to the King's use, all goods, jewels, money, and other property which had been taken by Cade and his associates, and to expend the same in the public service, especially in endeavouring to make him and them prisoners.[5] Cade was, however, killed

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which he professed to have in view,—of redressing all grievances. It ought to have been noticed, in p. 107, that the article respecting the disposal of the bodies of the traitors is printed in Sir Henry Ellis's Collection of Original Letters.

[1] William of Worcester, pp. 469, 470.

[2] A very interesting account of the insurgents' army, and of their leader, will be found in the Paston Correspondence, vol. i. p. 54, *et seq.* in a letter from a person who had fallen into their hands.

[3] p. 94, *postea.* [4] pp. 94, 95, *postea.* [5] pp. 96, 97, *postea.*

on the preceding day, in a garden in Sussex, by Alexander Iden, the Sheriff of Kent[1], who obtained an order, on the 15th of that month, for the payment of the 1,000 marks which had been offered, on the 10th, to any one who should bring Cade's body to the Council.[2] Ten pounds were directed to be paid to Holes, the Keeper of the Privy Seal, for the expences of his journey when he was sent by the King to communicate with Cade; and six horses, which had belonged to him, were given to Holes, in consideration of his having to perform another journey in the King's service and being destitute of horses.[3] Part of Cade's effects were appropriated to the erection of the East Gate in the city of Rochester; but the most curious documents relate to the disposal of the bodies of the rebels, upon which was wreaked all the impotent vengeance that the barbarity of the times could suggest. 28 Hen.VI. 1450.

After the death of Cade, the title of "Captain "of Kent" was assumed by a person called John Smyth, who was made prisoner by the Duke of Somerset in October following, for whose caption a reward of £40 was paid; and twenty marks per diem were then assigned to the Duke, for his services in suppressing the insurgents in 29 Hen.VI. 1450.

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[1] Fabian, ed. 1811, p. 625.

[2] Stow, p. 392; and Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 275.

[3] pp. 98, 99, *postea*.

29 Hen. VI. 1450. Kent.[1] Among the traitors who lost their lives in that rebellion, the names of Nicholas Jakes, Thomas Cheyney, who pretended to be a hermit called "Blue-beard[2]," and John Ramsey, a wine-drawer, are conspicuous. It appears that the quarters of Jakes were sent to Chichester, Rochester, Portsmouth, and Colchester; that the head of Cheyney was sent to Canterbury, and his quarters to London, Norwich, and the Cinque Ports; and that the corpse of Ramsey was divided among Stamford, Newbury, Coventry, and Winchester, his head being placed on London Bridge. The body of the "great traitor," Mortimer or Cade, was drawn on a hurdle through the streets of London, his head was affixed on London Bridge, and his quarters were exhibited at Blackheath, Norwich, Salisbury, and Gloucester. The selection of those cities and towns for the exhibition of the rebels' bodies indicates the most disaffected parts of England; and it is worthy of observation, that, so far from their crimes being held in abhorrence, it was found scarcely possible to induce any one to convey these horrible relics to the above-mentioned places, from "fear of their lives."[3] In contemplating this disgusting proceeding, it is

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[1] pp. 101, 102, *postea*.

[2] "Then of this grudge ensued rebellion of the Commons, insomuch "that they assembled them in sundry places, and made of themselves "captains, and *named them Bluebeard*, and other counterfeit names." Fabian, ed. 1811, p. 622. See also Stow, p. 387.

[3] pp. 107, 108, *postea*.

satisfactory to know that the savage spirit of the Law which sanctioned it, was foreign to, at least, one contemporary mind. The amiable Henry himself, is said by an eye witness, to have shewn the utmost horror on accidentally seeing the mutilated remains of a traitor thus exposed. Ignorant of the meaning of such an outrage on humanity, he inquired the cause, and on being told that it was for an offence against his Royal dignity, he ordered them to be removed, benignly exclaiming, "I will not permit "any Christian to be treated in that manner."[1] 29 Hen. VI. 1450.

A slight sketch of the state of parties and of the country between June 1450 and the commencement of the year 1454, is a necessary introduction to the Proceedings of the Council in that period.

After the fall of the Duke of Suffolk, who was the victim of popular clamour and of the weakness of the Government, rather than of his own crimes, Cardinal Kemp, Archbishop of York, succeeded as principal Minister; but in consequence of the King's illness and incapacity, the regal power was, in fact, exercised by his Consort, whose masculine talents and ambition formed a striking contrast to her husband's meekness and timidity.

There was, however, a personage who, from his proximity to the throne, his talents, and his alliance with many powerful families of the realm, was a most formidable rival to any minister whom

[1] See Blackman's account of Henry the Sixth, at the end of Otterbourne's Chronicle, printed by Hearne, p. 301.

29 Hen.VI. 1450.. the Royal favour could create; and who was, moreover, very unlikely to neglect the advantages which nature and his own merits had given him.

Richard Plantagenet Duke of York was, through his mother, the lineal heir of the Duke of Clarence, the third son of King Edward the Third; and he had thus an hereditary and Common Law right to the Crown prior to that of Henry himself; but not possessing the influence in the King's Councils which his station and talents alike justified him in expecting, mutual jealousy and distrust existed between himself, the Queen, and the Ministers. At the time of Cade's rebellion, the Duke of York was Lieutenant of Ireland; but the perilous condition of affairs both in England and France, and perhaps a regard for his own interests, which were likely to be compromised by any public disaster, induced him suddenly to return to this country. He arrived at his castle of Ludlow in Wales about August or September 1450, where he directed his followers to join him. Lord de L'Isle was dispatched by the King to impede his movements[1]; and a numerous body of the retainers of Lord Grey de Ruthyn having met a lawyer, of the name of Tresham, (who had been Speaker of the House of Commons,) on his way to join the Duke, attacked and murdered him near Northampton.[2] The Duke of York, who had collected upwards of

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[1] William of Worcester, p. 473.

[2] *Ibid.*; and Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 211, 213.

4,000, and according to some writers, as many as 10,000 followers, proceeded to London towards th end of September, and repaired to the King. H represented to Henry the state of the Kingdon exhibited a long catalogue of grievances[1], an prayed him to summon a Parliament. It is sai that the Duke of York conducted himself, in thi interview, with violence, but that he was subdue by the King's dignity and moderation, who is re ported to have answered as "if the spirit of th "wisdom of God were in him.[2]" Finding th Government too strong to be intimidated, Yor retired to Fotheringay; and the Duke of Somerse whose surrender of Caen shortly before had in spired York with contempt for his capacity equa to the jealousy which he had long felt of his in fluence, was recalled from Normandy, placed at th head of affairs, and made Constable of England.[3] 29 Hen.VI. 1450.

These appointments served, however, only t weaken the Administration, which they were in tended to strengthen, in consequence of Somerset extreme unpopularity, he being supposed to hav lost Normandy by his misconduct.

In November, Parliament met at Westminste pursuant to writs issued on the 5th of Septembe to provide for the defence of the Kingdom and th

[1] Stow, p. 393, *et seq.* [2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 346.

[3] His appointment was dated at Rochester, on the 11th of Septemb 1450, to which city he, with the Duke of Buckingham, the Lord Cha cellor, and others, had accompanied the King for the punishment Cade's adherents. Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 276; Paston Letters, vol. iii. p. 8

29 Hen. VI. 1450. safeguard of the sea, to afford aid to the King's subjects in Aquitaine, and to punish and suppress riots in various parts of the Realm[1]; but it was soon afterwards prorogued, and did not meet again until the ensuing spring. According to a contemporary chronicler[2], Parliament was principally occupied with the quarrel between the Dukes of York and Somerset, but no allusion to the subject occurs on the Rolls; and it is also stated by the same writer, that the Duke of Norfolk appeared on the occasion with a large retinue in support of the Duke of York, and that a lawyer of the name of Young[3], having proposed to declare that Prince heir to the Crown, he was committed to the Tower.

The Commons then requested that certain Peers and others, who are named, should be removed from the King's presence; but the demand was only partially granted, though Henry's answer was given in very conciliatory terms.[4] The most memorable Act of that Parliament was one to

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 210. [2] William of Worcester, p. 474.

[3] In 1455, Young petitioned for a recompence for his losses and expences during his imprisonment, which he estimated at 1,000 marks. He did not, however, state precisely the cause of his arrest, but only that, contrary to the freedom of debate allowed to the Commons, and in consequence of "untrue sinister reports made to the King of him for matters "by him shewed in the House accustomed for the Commons in Parlia-"ment," he had been arrested and publicly led to the Tower, and there "grievously in great duress long time imprisoned." Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 337.

[4] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 216.

enable the Crown to resume all grants which had been made since Henry's accession, in consequence of his debts (which amounted to £372,000, his yearly revenue being only £5,000, whilst his Household alone required £23,000), and of the inability of the people to bear any additional burthens.[1] 29 Hen. VI. 1450.

Though the Duke of York's first attempt to place himself at the head of the Government was unsuccessful, he only waited for a favourable opportunity to renew it: nor were his partizans neglectful of his interests in the mean time. Many parts of the Kingdom were the scenes of tumultuous assemblies; and a quarrel which arose between the Earl of Salisbury and Thomas Percy, Lord Egremont, a younger son of the Earl of Northumberland, the origin of which is unknown, but which lasted for a considerable time, and will be again particularly noticed, is assigned as the principal cause of the civil war.[2] The Duke of York having married Cecily, a daughter of the Earl of Westmorland, he was the brother-in-law of the Earl of Salisbury, and was thus, not only closely allied to the powerful family of Neville, but with numerous others of the nobility, many of whom supported him with zeal and fidelity.

In February 1452, York, who had again retired to Ludlow Castle, determined to assert his own rights; and to wrest the Government from the hands of Somerset and the Queen's party. On

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 217.

[2] William of Worcester, p. 476.

29 Hen.VI. 1450. the 13th of that month he wrote to the citizens of Shrewsbury, stating the misconduct of Somerset in losing Normandy, which had led to the recovery of Gascony and Guienne by the French, and pointing out the enemy's attempts on Calais, and their intention to invade this country. He told them that since his return from Ireland, he had exposed the condition of affairs to the King: he said that his advice had not only failed through Somerset's machinations, but that the latter had endeavoured to attaint him and his followers of treason; and he concluded by calling upon them to assist his determination to proceed with his kinsmen and friends against Somerset, for the welfare of the realm, keeping, however, within the bounds of his allegiance to the King.[1]

Henry took the field, and marched to oppose the Duke of York, attended by the Duke of Somerset and many other Peers. York avoided meeting them, by taking a different route to London from that by which they had advanced; but being refused admittance into the city, he crossed the Thames and took up his quarters near Dartford in Kent. The King's army having followed, they met at Blackheath, where, after several communications[2], amicable terms were agreed upon, the principal of

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[1] See this important letter, printed from the original, in "Ellis's Original Letters," first series, vol. i. p. 11.; and another letter, dated on the 9th of January, in Stow's Annals, p. 393.

[2] These letters or declarations will be found in Stow's Annals, pp. 394, 395.

which was that Somerset should be arrested and remain in ward until he had answered the charges brought against him; upon which York dismissed his followers, and submitted himself to the King. His confidence in the Royal promises was, however, misplaced. He was treated as a prisoner, until the Council were induced to release him, in consequence of the arrival of disastrous news from Guienne, and the prevalence of a rumour, that his son, the Earl of March, was approaching the metropolis with a large army to rescue him. On the 10th of March the Duke of York swore fidelity to the King in St. Paul's church; and he soon afterwards retired into Wales. 29 Hen. VI. 1451.

Somerset's influence remained not only unimpaired, but new marks of the Royal confidence were conferred upon him, as he was made Captain of Calais in September 1451[1], and Lieutenant of the Marches of Picardy, Flanders, and Artois, in December following.[2] A Council was held at Coventry in September, in the King's presence, for the purpose of reconciling the Dukes of York and Somerset[3], but only a hollow and temporary accommodation was effected; and though both parties met in the next Parliament, which assembled at Reading on the 6th of March 1453, to provide for the government of the Kingdom, and for its defence against foreign enemies, nothing is recorded to have been done to reconcile the two

[1] Rot. Franciæ, 30 Hen. VI., m. 17. [2] *Ibid.* m. 12.

[3] William of Worcester, p. 476.

29 Hen.VI. 1451. factions, whose animosity prevented the accomplishment of either of the objects for which it was summoned. Parliament was prorogued on the 2nd of June, and, by subsequent prorogations, until March in the following year, before which time a total change had occurred in public affairs.

The most interesting of the proceedings of the Council collected in this volume, between 1451 and 1454, will now be pointed out. A command was issued to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, in January 1451, to which some importance ought, perhaps, to be attached. They were directed to disregard all orders previously given, or which might hereafter be given, by Letters or Warrants, to surcease Legal processes and judgments, except by the authority of the Council; and to proceed effectually in all matters relating to the Crown according to the due course of Law.[1]

One article only has been found relating to the Duke of York's adherents in the 30th of Henry the Sixth. On the 17th of February 1452, a letter was sent to Edward Brooke Lord Cobham, who was one of the Duke's principal advisers, stating, that he had disobeyed the King's commands to attend a Great Council which had been summoned in consequence of "the great untruth " and disobedience which is meant and proposed

[1] p. 104, *postea.*

" against us and against our estate, and against our " universal policy, and welfare of this our land, " the which, with the grace of our Lord, shall not " take such effect as the authors and labourers " thereof purpose and intend, but shall be so re- " buked and chastised as it shall be to the pleasure " of God and to the worship of us, and to the weal " of this our realm;" and charging him, in the strongest language, to repair, without a moment's delay, to his Majesty's presence, and there "wait " upon him, and do service such as it fitteth our " true liegeman," upon peril of his indignation, and its consequences.[1] It is highly probable that a similar letter was sent to all the other Lords of the Duke of York's party. 30 Hen. VI. 1452.

Little additional information is afforded by the Proceedings of the Council in this year than what relates to Calais. Historians do not appear to have been aware of the danger in which that town then stood, nor of the efforts made by the Government for its defence.[2] In the summer of 1451, the Lords Beauchamp and Sudeley were sent there with a reinforcement of 1,150 men, besides the crews of the twelve vessels which conveyed them[3]; and in March following, letters were written to Lord Clifford, which, after thanking him for his former

[1] pp. 116, 117, *postea.*

[2] A letter in the Paston Correspondence, dated on the 6th of May 1450, states that it was then rumoured that Calais would be besieged within the next seven days, vol. i. p. 46.

[3] pp. 112, 113, *postea.*

30 Hen.VI. 1452. eminent services, acquainted him that the King of France was about to proceed to the Marches of Calais with the largest army that had been assembled in that Kingdom for many years, and "with "as great ordinance and devices of war as any "man hath seen," intending to take Calais and other places there by siege, and afterwards to invade England, "to the intent to destroy and "despoil it, and the dwellers of the same." Clifford was, therefore, directed to proceed to Calais as speedily as possible, and to offer all the resistance in his power to the enemy's designs. He was told that the King had appointed the Earl of Shrewsbury Commander of the Army on the sea, and that certain ships were ready in the Thames, at Winchelsea and Sandwich: and he was desired to use his utmost exertions to induce the several Knights, Ship-owners, and others, to whom he was furnished with credentials, to give their services on that occasion. To encourage Lord Clifford the more, all the ships and men he could raise were placed under his command, and he was directed to bring them to the Downs or the Camber[1] without delay.[2] Further instructions were sent to him on the 22nd of the same month, containing the names of the ships he was to employ[3]; but the remainder of the document is lost.

From the critical state of England, and the

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[1] *Vide* vol. v. Preface.

[2] pp. 119-122, *postea.*

[3] p. 124, *postea.*

peril with which her provinces in France were threatened, the Government was naturally anxious to prevent the Scots from being added to the number of her enemies. Lord Poynings, Warden of the East Marches, and the Lieutenants of Tyndale, Redesdale, and Roxborough were commanded, in May in this year, upon their faith and allegiance, to preserve the existing truce by every means in their power, notwithstanding it had been violated by the followers of the Earl of Douglas, whose conduct had led to reprisals; and they were told, that whenever the King should be no longer disposed to maintain the truce, they would be so informed, until which time they were strictly ordered not to allow any thing to be done which might tend to disturb it.[1] 30 Hen.VI. 1452.

No other Proceedings of the Council in the 31st of Henry the Sixth, relating to the domestic affairs of the Kingdom, have been discovered, than numerous letters and ordinances respecting the quarrel between the Nevilles and Lord Egremont before alluded to. If William of Worcester be correct in saying that the dispute originated between the Earl of Salisbury and Egremont two years before, it is, nevertheless, certain that the Earl's younger son, Sir John Neville, had so warmly espoused his father's cause as to have become the principal actor in the scene. The 31 Hen.VI 1453.

[1] pp. 125, 126, *postea.*

31 Hen. VI. 1453. retainers of both parties having, agreeably to the custom of the age, adopted their Lords' quarrel, the counties of York, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Northumberland were thrown into commotion, and the usual results of personal affrays, pillage, and murders, ensued.[1] Egremont was peremptorily summoned, on the 7th of June 1453, to appear before the King to answer for his conduct, but as he had disobeyed the command, it was repeated in still stronger terms towards the end of that month; and he was directed, in the mean time, not to break the peace himself, nor allow it to be broken by any of his followers[2]; similar injunctions being issued to Sir John Neville. The efforts of the Sheriff of Cumberland to maintain tranquillity were useless, as his followers were beaten, and Egremont even threatened that he would have the Sheriff's head for daring to interfere.[3] These riots having become alarming, a Commission, of which Sir William Lucy was at the head, was sent into the North, with letters to the Earls of Northumberland and Salisbury, as well as to Egremont and Neville, and to several Knights and Esquires of each party, commanding them to discontinue their proceedings; and those noblemen were also directed to use their utmost exertions in dispersing the rioters.[4] It will be seen, however, that the disorders were

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 394-396. [2] pp. 140, 141, *postea.*

[3] See a petition from Thomas de la More, Sheriff of Cumberland, to the King on the Rolls of Parliament, vol. vi. p. 163.

[4] pp. 140-154, *postea.*

not terminated until after the accession of the Duke of York and the Earl of Salisbury to power. Though not shewn to be implicated in these proceedings, it is evident that Lord Grey of Rugemont, or, as he was more commonly called, Lord Rugemont Grey, had given some displeasure to the Government, he having been commanded to attend the Council, without excuse or delay, in July in the same year.[1] 31 Hen. VI. 1453.

The remaining documents belonging to the year 1453, relate to an appeal of battle by a person called John Lyalton against one Robert Norres, who had accused him of high treason. Like the parties before mentioned[2], they were to fight at Smithfield under the authority of the Constable of England. Their weapons, which consisted of glaives, short swords, daggers, and axes, instead of long swords, were provided by the King's armourer. The Sheriffs of London were ordered to erect a scaffold for the King, with the necessary barriers and lists, and to gravel and sand the ground at his Majesty's cost. Besides Knights and others, who were assigned as counsel on each side, both the appellant and defendant claimed the services of an armourer and a painter "after the custom of old time used."[3] It is manifest that appeals to personal combat, even when the parties were obscure, excited the greatest

[1] p. 142, *postea.*

[2] *Vide* p. xxi, *antea.*

[3] pp. 129; 133-140, *postea.*

31 Hen.VI. 1453. interest among all classes; and that the King not only provided weapons, tents, and other things for the battle, but that, as in this instance, he furnished the combatants with money to procure whatever else they might require. The result of this quarrel has not been ascertained; and it is rather singular, considering the attention usually shewn to these matters, that it is not noticed by any chronicler.

A large army having been sent to Guienne under the veteran Earl of Shrewsbury, at the request of the inhabitants, to defend them against the French, loans were borrowed from individuals for its equipment and support; and they were required to pay them, lest they should be considered "letters and breakers of the said army."[1] The mayors and customers of the sea ports were directed, in August, to use all possible means to induce owners and masters of ships to serve in the expedition[2], as intelligence had been received that the French were assembling a large fleet in the Gironde to oppose the entrance of the English.[3] That every effort was made to raise the necessary supplies, is apparent from two documents relating to the sale of alum and tin, the produce of which commodities was to be applied to that object.[4]

32 Hen.VI. 1453. So far from the efforts of the Council to suppress the riots in the North, arising out of the

[1] p. 143, *postea.*
[2] pp. 151, 152, *postea.*
[3] p. 155, *postea.*
[4] pp. 152, 153, 157, *postea.*

quarrel of the Nevilles and Lord Egremont, having been successful, the tumults became more serious; and many of the Minutes of the Council in the latter part of the year 1453 refer to that subject. 32 Hen. VI. 1453.

In October, the Earl of Westmorland and Robert Neville, Bishop of Durham, were specially thanked, in the King's name, for their exertions in quelling those disturbances, and for not having afforded any countenance to the leaders, notwithstanding their near relationship to them; and a similar acknowledgment was sent to Booth, Archbishop of York.[1]

Very strong and remarkable letters were also written to the Earls of Salisbury and Northumberland, the fathers of the parties chiefly concerned, stating that they had heretofore been considered "sad, sober, and well ruled men;" that the high rank which they held was given to them, not to be abused, but for the worship of God and support of the King's laws and peace, to the preservation of which they were the more bound from being Commissioners of the peace, and Lords of the Council; that their oath in taking the latter office obliged them, in case of a quarrel between Lord and Lord tending to a breach of the peace, and involving themselves, to be governed by the other Members of the Council, and not to seek redress at their own hands[2]; that it had been

[1] pp. 158, 159, *postea*.

[2] *Vide* Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 415; and Proceedings of the Council, vol. iii. pp. 175,176, 219; vol. iv. p. 36.

32 Hen.VI. 1453. recently ordered by Parliament, that if any Lord had cause of complaint against another, he should state it in writing; that, notwithstanding the express orders which had been sent to them to prevent riotous meetings, they, without any complaint being made to the King, had ventured to assemble "a greater number of persons, and thereto "had appointed time and place, than had before "been collected in this country within the me-"mory of man." The Earls were then assured, that if any lives were lost in consequence, both themselves and all who assisted them should be "so chastised," that they and all others "should have matter and cause to eschew to "attempt any thing like hereafter;" and as for themselves, they were told that if they had "so "attempted against our estate and yours, deserving "thereby to be stranged from the occupation of "the said estate that ye stand, we shall in no "wise spare you in this case, but rather more "grievously punish you than we would do the "least person in our land, the which, nevertheless, "as the Lord knoweth, we would be right loth "to do."[1] To Lord Egremont himself a letter of still greater severity was dispatched. He was reminded that the King had not long before, (namely, in November 1449,) raised him to the rank of a Baron, not for the services he had rendered, but from confidence in those he would perform,

[1] pp. 159, 161, *postea.*

especially in preserving the peace of the country; but that, instead of doing so, he had used his influence for a contrary purpose, for which he deserved to be deprived of that rank, especially as he had not only disobeyed the King's commands sent to him in the preceding July, but continued daily to assemble armed persons, ready for the field, as if it were a time of war. He was therefore strictly enjoined to disperse his followers, and to maintain the public peace by every means in his power.[1] Sir John Neville received a letter to the same purport, omitting only the preamble which referred to the dignity of the Peerage.[2] 32 Hen. VI. 1453.

The loss of Guienne, which happened soon after the fatal battle of Chastillon, in July in this year, the mental imbecility into which the King had fallen, the disturbances in the North, and the dissensions among some of the most powerful noblemen of the Realm, induced the Ministers to summon a Great Council in October. Though entitled to attend that meeting, as a right incidental to his Peerage, there is some doubt whether the Duke of York was originally summoned to be present. Such an omission would have been little short of an insult, if not almost an imputation of treason; but it is certain, from a remarkable document in a subsequent page, that the Duke either had not, or pretended not to have, received a command to attend. The circumstance appears to

[1] pp. 161-163, *postea*.

[2] p. 163, *postea*.

32 Hen.VI. 1453. have excited considerable interest, as Sir James Tyrrell, himself a member of the Council, was sent to him in the King's name, with a summons in the usual form; and he was ordered to acquaint him that one object of assembling a Great Council was to restore harmony among the Peers of the Realm, and that as it was supposed dissension existed between the Duke and some other Lords, the King desired his attendance, stipulating, however, that he should not be accompanied by an unusual number of followers.[1]

The Duke of Somerset was not a party to this communication to the Duke of York, which was probably meant as an invitation to him to assume the direction of affairs; for it is the earliest notice that has been found of a change in the policy of the Government, and it was speedily followed by his obtaining absolute power. York attended the Council early in December following, when the next of its proceedings, now extant, took place[2]; but the Duke of Somerset was not present on the occasion, and in January following that personage was committed to the Tower.[3]

On the 13th of February 1454, authority was granted to the Duke of York, as the King's Lieutenant, to assemble Parliament on the 15th of that month.[4] One of the first subjects to which the

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[1] pp. 163, 164, *postea.*

[2] p. 165, *postea.*

[3] See an article respecting Somerset's imprisonment, in pp. lxiii—lxv.

[4] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 344. Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 240.

Lords of the Council directed their attention was the King's health. On the 15th of March, they agreed that a Commission should be issued to three physicians and two surgeons, to attend and prescribe for Henry's illness; and the minute manner in which their powers are described is not a little curious.[1] The Commission itself was not, however, issued until the 6th of April, nearly three weeks after.[2] Cardinal Kemp, Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, died on the 22nd of that month; and it became absolutely necessary, for the appointment of his successor, to ascertain the exact state of the King's mind. A Committee, consisting of twelve Peers, was accordingly sent to Henry, at Windsor, to learn his pleasure on the subject. The Committee returned, and made its report on the 25th, to the effect that it was impossible to obtain an answer from the King, who did not recognize them, nor even seem aware of their presence; and that to their inquiries "they could get no answer or sign for "no prayer nor desire lamentable cheer nor ex- "hortation, nor any thing that they or any of "them could do or say, to their great sorrow and "discomfort."[3] The apathy into which Henry had fallen was not mental only: his bodily illness was no less severe, for he was obliged to be led between two men from one room to the other.[4]

32 Hen. VI. 1454.

[1] pp. 166, 167, *postea*.
[2] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 347.
[3] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 240, 242.
[4] *Ibid.*

32 Hen. VI. 1454.

In this emergency the Lords proceeded to provide for the exercise of the Royal authority, on the 27th of the same month, by electing and nominating (without any reference to the Commons) the Duke of York, as Protector and Defender of the Realm, during the King's pleasure.[1] The Duke, however, wisely insisted upon deriving his authority from an Act of Parliament; and it is remarkable that he should state, in his answer to the Lords, that he accepted the office "not from "his own presumption, but only of the due and "humble obedience that I owe to do unto the "King, our most dread and Sovereign Lord, and "to you, the Peerage of this land, in whom, by "the occasion of the infirmity of our said Sove-"reign Lord, resteth the exercise of his authority."[1] In compliance with his request, that his powers might be specified, the Lords declared him "Chief "of the King's Council, and Protector and "Defender of the Realm," in preference to "the title of Tutor, Lieutenant Governor, or "Regent, or any name which might imply "authority of governance of the land." The Duke further desired that such Peers as might be chosen members of the Council should accept the office; to which the Lords replied, that those who were named of the Council should consult together on the subject. An Act was passed, according to the Duke's desire, with the assent of

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 242.

the Commons, on the 3rd of April; but the duration of the Protectorship was limited to the King's pleasure, and was to cease when "Edward, the "King's eldest son," attained to years of discretion.[1] 32 Hen. VI. 1454.

The first exercise of the Protector's authority was to consolidate his power, by appointing his brother-in-law, the Earl of Salisbury, Lord Chancellor, whose patent for that office was, in fact, dated[2] on the day before the Statute constituting the Duke Protector of the Realm, was passed; but it is evident from the Minutes of the Council four days before[3], that he was even then considered as Chancellor. Salisbury was the first and only layman who had held that situation during Henry's reign; and he was succeeded by an ecclesiastic early in the following year. The Captaincy of Calais, one of the most confidential posts in the gift of the Crown, was soon after conferred upon Salisbury's eldest son, the Earl of Warwick. In the promotion of Bishops, recommended by the Council on the 30th of March, Salisbury's influence is also apparent; for although his son, George Neville, was not then elevated to the Episcopal bench, it was specially provided that he should have the next vacant See; and in 1456 he was elected Bishop of Exeter.[4] This Minute shews, what perhaps has never been doubted, that formerly, as in more recent times, high birth afforded

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 242, 243. [2] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 345.
[3] 30th March. p. 169, *postea*. [4] *Vide* p. 169, and p. lxxvii, *postea*.

32 Hen.VI. 1454. strong claims to a mitre, for Thomas Bourchier, Bishop of Ely, a great grandson of King Edward the Third, was then selected for the Archiepiscopal See of Canterbury, in consequence of his "great "merits, virtues, and great blood that he is of;" and though George Neville's virtues and "cun- "ning" were mentioned, his "blood," and being "son to the Earl of Salisbury, the Chancellor," are specially noticed.[1]

A dispute having arisen, as to who was legally Lieutenant of Ireland, it was ordered that all grants assigned for that country should be paid to the Treasurer of England only, until the question was decided; but the matter having been settled, the Council, on the 15th of April, rescinded its former order.[2]

On the 16th of April, the Council was specially directed to assemble on the 6th of May, to take measures for the internal government of the Realm, and for its exterior defence, particularly for the safeguard of Calais.[3] This article is presumed to contain the names of all the Members of the Privy Council on the 16th of April, whence (supposing it to be perfect) it appears that the Council consisted of the Dukes of York, Norfolk, and Buckingham; the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of Winchester, Ely, Norwich, Lichfield, and Lincoln; the Earls of Salisbury, Warwick, Oxford, Worcester, Shrews-

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[1] p. 169, *postea.*

[2] pp. 172, 173, *postea.*

[3] pp. 174, 175, *postea.*

bury, and Wiltshire; the Prior of St. John's of Jerusalem; the Lords Cromwell, Sudeley, Scales, Dudley, Stourton, Willoughby, and Clinton; Sir Thomas Stanley, and John Say, Esquire. As there is not any correct list of the Council for some time before the Duke of York became Protector, it is uncertain what changes he made in that body; but the names of the Bishops of Salisbury and Rochester, who were present when the Duke was summoned to attend the Council on the 24th of October 1454, and of Sir Thomas Tyrrell[1], who was the bearer of that summons, are not in the preceding list. Nor does it agree with the names of those persons who were present in the Council on the 15th of March, or on the 1st and 8th of April; nor even, exactly, with those who attended on the preceding day. The more recent variations were the omission of Robert Neville, Bishop of Durham; of the Bishops of London, Worcester, and Hereford; of Jasper Earl of Pembroke, and the Earl of Devon; of the Abbots of Battle, Gloucester, and Selby; and of the Lords Say, Abergavenny, Scrope, Fauconberg, Greystock, and "Talbot."[2] 32 Hen. VI. 1454.

The only new members were the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Cromwell, Sir Thomas Stanley, and John Say. It appears, therefore, that on the 16th of April the Council was re-

[1] Sir Thomas Tyrrell, with Sir William Lucy, Sir Thomas Stanley, and Sir Thomas Harrington, were, however, summoned to attend a Great Council on the 25th of June in that year. p. 186, *postea*.

[2] It is doubtful who the person was who signed himself "Talbot."

32 Hen.VI. 1454. modelled, by the addition of five Yorkists and the dismissal of fifteen persons; and that it was made to consist of twenty-seven, instead of thirty-seven members.[1] The omission of the Archbishop of Canterbury, whose predecessors had claimed a seat in the Privy Council as a matter of right[2], is explained by that See being then vacant. Thomas Bourchier, the next Archbishop, who was at that time Bishop of Ely, was one of the new Council, and did homage for the See of Canterbury early in September 1454.[3]

Though many of the Peers who attended that Parliament had agreed to provide soldiers, at their own cost, for the defence of Calais, which was menaced with a siege by as great an army, both by sea and land, as the French and their allies could possibly collect, and "such as had not before "been seen," it became necessary to apply, on the 17th of April, to such Lords as had not contributed, to imitate the example of their Peers, or to make grants of money for the purpose, in consideration of what "a jewel" that town was, with what "labour, pain, and outrageous costs" it had been acquired, and the injury which would attend its loss.[4]

In May, the Protector commenced vigorous proceedings against Lord Egremont and the Percys,

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[1] Before the 16th of May the Dean of St. Severin was appointed a member of the Council. p. 130, *postea*.

[2] *Vide* Rot. Parl., vol. iii. p. 223.

[3] Paston Letters, vol. iii. p. 223.

[4] pp. 175-177, *postea*.

and other rioters in the North, actuated partly, perhaps, by the Earl of Salisbury's animosity against them. The mediation of the Archbishop of York had succeeded in preventing many of the mischiefs which were likely to ensue from those tumults; but on the 10th of that month, the Earl of Northumberland was reminded of his son's disobedience; and after being informed, that such conduct would no longer be permitted, was told that his own presence was desired before the Council on the 12th of June.[1] The Duke of Exeter, Lord Roos, Sir Nicholas Langford, and others who were implicated in these disorders, were, at the same time, peremptorily commanded to appear before the Council.[2] Henry Holland, the young Duke of Exeter, disgusted with the success of the Yorkists, joined Lord Egremont in disturbing the Northern districts: and in May, the Protector found it expedient to proceed against them, into Yorkshire, in person[3], where he was received with great respect[4], and remained until the middle of June.[5] Exeter's misconduct was described in a letter dated on the 3rd of June, in which he was charged with having used the King's name in furtherance of his designs without any authority, with exciting the people by seditious language in the city of York, and in letters to the inhabitants of Lancashire

32 Hen.VI. 1454.

[1] p. 178, *postea.* [2] p. 179, *postea.*

[3] See letters to Sir Thomas Stanley and Sir Thomas Harrington, dated 16th May 1454. p. 130, *postea.*

[4] p. 196, *postea.* [5] Paston Letters, vol. i. p. 77.

32 Hen.VI. 1454. and Cheshire, with assembling armed men, with riding with banners displayed "full outrageously "and indiscreetly" against the Laws, and with having irreverently snatched the King's letters from the hands of his messenger. He was assured that means would be found to punish him; and he was commanded to attend the Council on the 25th of the same month.[1] Lord Egremont and his brother, Richard Percy, and some of their followers, were again rebuked, and ordered to appear on the same day, and not to break the peace in the meantime.[2] The Abbot of Hulme was informed of Exeter's and Egremont's conduct, and warned not to allow any assistance to be given to them[3]; and the latter, as hereditary Sheriff of Westmoreland, was further directed to meet the Duke of York with the *posse comitatus*.[4] The Mayors and Corporations of York and Hull received the King's thanks for having resisted the insurgents, and for having received the Duke of York with respect and cordiality; and they were told, that their behaviour was "to them a perpetual "laud and commendation, and a noble mirror and "gentle example to all true subjects."[5]

Exeter being driven from the North by the Duke of York, took sanctuary in the Abbey of Westminster[6], from which, to the horror of the

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[1] pp. 189, 190, *postea*. [2] pp. 191, 192, *postea*.

[3] pp.193, 194, *postea*. [4] pp.194, 195, *postea*. [5] pp.196, 197, *postea*.

[6] Hall, p. 234. "It is said the Duke of Exeter is here covertly. God "send him good counsel hereafter." *Vide* a letter in the Paston Corre-

Abbot and Monks, he was taken by force[1], and sent, as a prisoner, to Pomfret Castle, at the end of July, in the custody of Sir Bryan Stapleton and two other Knights[2], the cause of which circumstances, in Exeter's life, has been hitherto unknown.[3] Lord Egremont contrived, however, for some time to elude all the efforts which were made to reduce him to obedience; and he not only refused to comply with the King's repeated orders to appear and answer for his conduct, but latterly kept out of the way of the bearers of those commands. Strong measures, therefore, became requisite; and about this time, though the exact date is not stated[4], the Commons presented a Bill to the Lords, which recited the misconduct of Egremont and his brother, Richard Percy, and the necessity of punishing them for the sake of example; and Parliament enacted, that proclamations should be issued in Yorkshire, commanding

32 Hen. VI. 1454.

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spondence (vol. i. p. 77) from London. Another letter in the same Collection (vol. i. p. 73) says, "as for tidings, my Lord of York hath "taken my Lord of Exeter into his award. The Duke of Somerset "is still in prison in worse case than he was."

[1] Stow's Annals, p. 400, where it is said, that this was done contrary to an order made in the preceding Parliament. Stow, Fabian, and Hall erroneously make Exeter's imprisonment at Pomfret *subsequent* to the first battle of St. Alban's; and they altogether omit to state that the Duke of York was made Protector as well *before* as *after* that battle.

[2] pp. 217, 218, *postea*.

[3] Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 82.

[4] It must, however, have been after the 3rd of March 1452, as the letters which were written to Egremont on that day are referred to in the Act.

32 Hen.VI. 1454. them to appear before the Lord Chancellor within a specified time, to give bail to keep the peace, or be committed to prison; and announcing that if they did not so surrender themselves, they should forfeit every thing they held under the King's grants. Penalties were imposed upon their followers, in case they continued with them; and the local influence which Egremont possessed is strongly shewn by the imposition of the enormous fine of £2,000 upon the Sheriff of Yorkshire, in case he omitted to make the said proclamations, and of the same sum upon the keeper of any prison out of which that nobleman, or his brother, might make their escape.[1]

The statements of Fabian and other chroniclers, if correct in dates, shew that Egremont was not subdued until two or three years afterwards, as they say, under the 35th of Henry the Sixth, 1456-1457, that in that year there was a great fray in the North, between Lord Egremont and the sons of the Earl of Salisbury, in which many persons were wounded or slain; but that in the end Egremont was taken and adjudged to pay considerable sums to the Earl of Salisbury; and that being unable to do so, or to find security, he was committed to Newgate, from whence, after being some time confined, he and three others made their escape by night, "to the great charge "of the Sheriffs."[2] Stow adds, that Egremont's

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 395.

[2] Fabian, ed. 1811. p. 632; Chronicle of London, p. 139.

brother, Richard Percy, made his escape at the same time, and that they proceeded to the King.[1] It appears from the agreement between the Yorkists and Lancastrian Lords, made by the King in March, 36 Hen. VI. 1458, that Lord Egremont and his brother had been condemned by the Justices of Assize in Yorkshire, to pay 8,000 marks to the Earl of Salisbury, and 5,000 marks to his wife; to Sir Thomas Neville, their son, and Matilda his wife, 2,000 marks; and to Sir John Neville, Salisbury's other son, 800 marks; all which payments were remitted by the said agreement.[2] 32 Hen. VI. 1454.

The Duke of Somerset, who was sent to the Tower in January, was then still a prisoner; and Mr. Sharon Turner[3], who has investigated the history of this period with great industry, states, that he was arraigned in Parliament in this year by the Duke of York. No notice of the circumstance occurs on the Rolls, which, however, prove that Somerset was in confinement at the end of February[4]; and the authority referred to for the fact[5] seems to place it in the following year, when York certainly did exhibit charges against him.

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[1] Stow, p. 402.

[2] Rot. Pat., 36 Hen. VI. part ii. m. 9. The instrument itself is printed in Whethamstede's Chronicle, p. 424.

[3] Ed. 4to., vol. iii.

[4] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 280. Somerset and Lord Cobham were then exempted from the fine imposed upon peers for non-attendance in Parliament, because they were in prison.

[5] Whethamstede, p. 349.

32 Hen.VI. 1454. At the suggestion of the Lords in Parliament, the command of Calais, one great mark of political power, was taken from Somerset and conferred upon the Duke of York; but the latter made various stipulations before he accepted it, and his appointment was not completed until the 18th of July.[1]

Though temporarily subdued, the Lancastrian party were by no means deficient either in hopes or courage. They had not only succeeded in qualifying the power given to the Duke of York by Parliament, but they even ventured to impeach one of his friends, the Earl of Devon, of treason; and, though Devon was acquitted, the Protector considered the charge to touch his own honor so closely, as to induce him solemnly to deny the imputation cast upon his loyalty, calling God and all the Saints of Heaven to witness his fidelity to his Sovereign, and offering, as a Knight, to prove his assertion in the field against any one, of suitable rank, who would dare to maintain the contrary. At his request, this declaration was made a record of Parliament, the Lords having unanimously assured him that they were convinced of his loyalty.[2]

The next effort made by the Lancastrians, was to obtain the release of the Duke of Somerset

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 254-256; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 351. The Duke's indentures with the King on that occasion are printed in pp. 199-206, *postea.*

[2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 249, 250.

upon bail, which was debated in a Great Council held on the 8th of July, pursuant to summonses issued on the 29th of May.[1] Without directly opposing the measure, it is evident, from the Minutes of that meeting, that York was very unwilling to accede to it. He, therefore, wished that the Judges might be asked their opinion of its legality; and suggested that it was necessary for their acquittal, and to prevent misrepresentation, that, considering the weight and importance of the matter, the sentiments of a greater number of Lords than had then attended[2], should be ascertained. York concluded his remonstrance by declaring that he would not assent to Somerset's release without the advice of the Judges, and the knowledge and consent of such Peers as were

32 Hen. VI. 1454.

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[1] This Great Council was ordered to meet on the 25th of June, in consequence of the attempts made by the French upon Calais; and it was to deliberate "concerning the defence of the Realm outward, and "the restful and politique rule thereof inward." All the temporal and spiritual peers (except abbots) and four knights were summoned to attend it. (p. 185, *postea.*) Some disturbances appear to have happened in Buckinghamshire about that time, as Walter Duredent, sheriff of that county, was commanded to appear before the Council on the 25th of June, to answer such matters as should be declared unto him, upon pain of being fined £200. (p. 195, *postea.*) Though unnoticed by historians, London was ravaged by a severe pestilence in September in this year. Neither the Duke of York nor the Earl of Salisbury were then in the metropolis. Paston Letters, vol. i. p. 222.

[2] About twenty-three Peers only were present. The number of Peers summoned to the preceding Parliament was as follows: two archbishops, nineteen bishops, twenty-seven abbots or priors, five dukes, twelve earls, three viscounts, and thirty-six barons; forming forty-eight spiritual, and fifty-six temporal peers, and in all, one hundred and four.

32 Hen. VI. 1454. absent; and he desired that this his "advice, exhortation, and declaration" might be enacted in that Council, to remain of record for his acquittal, and be exemplified under the Great and Privy Seal.[1]

About that time, the Duke of York, with the view of increasing his influence, procured the authority of the Council to give the King's livery of Collars to eighty gentlemen whom he might select, all of whom were to swear not to be retained by any person except with the King's special licence.[2]

The advice of the Duke of York, to refer the question respecting Somerset's enlargement to a full meeting of the Great Council, was adopted; and on the 24th of July that body was ordered to assemble on the 21st of October ensuing.[3] Fourteen Bishops, two Dukes, eight Earls, and seventeen Barons were summoned to attend it, in the usual terms; but, in consequence of the non-attendance of the Bishop of St. David's, the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Berkeley, and ten other Barons, letters of a more peremptory nature were sent to them, telling them that if they did not attend on that occasion measures would be taken to compel them to do so.[4]

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[1] pp. 206, 207, *postea*.

[2] p. 209, *postea*.

[3] "There to proceed to good conclusion, with the grace of God, in such "matters as we called now late our said Great Council for, the which "be of right great charge and poise, sitting us full nigh to heart." p. 215, *postea*.

[4] pp. 216, 217, *postea*.

In the meantime Somerset continued a prisoner; and it appears, from a letter dated on the 28th of July, that his principal accuser was the Duke of Norfolk. A long statement on the subject, addressed by Norfolk either to the Privy Council or to the Lords in Parliament, is printed in the Paston Correspondence[1], wherein he charged Somerset with having usurped undue authority, and been the cause of the loss of Normandy and Guienne; and complained that justice had not been done on the occasion. Norfolk was ordered to appear before the Council on the 28th of October, to substantiate his charges; and so to demean himself in the interval, that the public peace might not be disturbed by his followers or himself.[2] Nothing more occurs in the article printed in this volume on the subject. The Duke of Somerset remained in the Tower until February in the following year, when he was brought before the Council and admitted to bail, after a confinement, as he himself stated, of one year and upwards of ten weeks.[3] The Duke of York was present on

32 Hen. VI. 1454.

[1] vol. iii. p. 108, *et seq.* [2] pp. 218, 219, *postea.*

[3] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 361. The following curious document, respecting the Duke of Somerset's imprisonment in 1454, occurs among Stow's Collections in the Harleian MS. 543, f. 161. It appears that the King of Scotland, Somerset's nephew, had sent a messenger to him to inquire the cause of his arrest, and that the Duke's answer had given great offence to the Council.

"ANSWER OF THE DUKE OF SOMERSET TO HIS CREDENCE TO HYM SENT "BY THE KINGE OF SCOTS.

"As to the credence sent by the Kynge of Scotts to me the Duke of "Somarset, which is upon two poynts, the tone towchinge the Kyngs

32 Hen.VI. 1454. the occasion, and probably yielded a reluctant assent to a measure which he no longer had it in his power to prevent.

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" highnese, to whiche, thowghe I were as at greate fredome as evar I " was, I would not take upon me to aunswere without the Kyngs " comaundement, or by the advice of his Counseyle; but as towchinge " to the othar, towching my selfe, undar correction, yet might be by " me aunswered in the forme that folowithe. First, that I thanke the " Kynge of Scotts right hartely of the good love and affection that he " hathe to me his uncle, as nature will that he shulde. Notwithstondinge, " as for my beinge in the Tower of London, it was done by thadvyse of " the lords of the Kyngs Counseyle, which, as I undarstand, was moaste " for the swertye of my person; and what so evar moved them so for to " doo, if I were alied unto all the Kyngs xp'ened as nighe as I am to " the sayde Kynge of Scotts, nor my will nor entent is nor evar was " to desire nor assent to aske ne to have any helpe by might of them " into this realme; for I have moche more trust in my trwthe and the " rightwysnes of my sovereigne lord and the lords of the land than I " could have of any might inward, and specially outward, thowghe I " were allied as before is sayde.

" MEMORANDUM. That in no wyse the Lords gyve theyr advyse or " assent to any aunswere to be gyven by the Duke of Somarset unto " the Kynge of Scotts upon his credence to the same Duke, ministred " by Ser James Stewarde, sith that the seyde credence came uonly unto " hym, wherin any othar lord hath none enteresse ne nat owe to enter- " mell thereof.

" It'm, where the sayd Duke, amonge othar things conseyved in a " cedule by hym made conserninge his aunswere to the sayde credence, " it is conteyned, that his beinge in the Toure of London was done by " thadvyce of the Lords of the Kyngs Counseyle, which, as he under- " stondithe, was moste for the surtie of his person, he there of dis- " clanderithe and blasphemith the sayde lords, which of an hoole assent " and auctoritie comytted him to the seyde Toure for suspetion of treason, " as by the acte there upon made it may appeare.

" And to thentent that thambiguitie and dowghte beinge amonge the " people whithar the seyd Duke was comytted to the seyd Towar for " the surtye onely of his person, or the seyde suspection may be " removed, it is right necessarye that the sayde acte be without delay

A few miscellaneous Proceedings of the Council, in the 32nd of Henry the Sixth, remain to be pointed out. From the unwillingness of many of the Lords to attend Parliament, when the powers of the Crown were vested in the Duke of York, an ordinance was passed on the 29th of February 1452, imposing a fine of from £40 to £100, according to their rank, upon every absentee, except in cases of age or sickness, when the Council was authorized to mitigate the penalties at its discretion; and the fines so imposed were to be appropriated to the defence of Calais.[1] Certain Lords were exempted from the penalty on account of being absent in the King's service abroad, or attached to his person during his illness, and two, because they were in prison. Pursuant to this Act, the Council examined the allegations of age or infirmity made by the Bishops of Exeter, Bath, and Rochester, the Earl of Westmoreland, five Abbots, and by the Lords Grey of Groby, Hunger- 32 Hen. VI. 1454.

called and red before the sayde Lords, and opened where it owght to be opened, to thentent that the comyttynge of the seyde Duke to the seyde Toure be not noysed unlawfully uppon the sayde Lords as in strange lands, nor that it be layde uppon them in burden or charge " at eny tyme here aftar.

" It'm, that in all wise the seyde credence be efte sones reported " before all the sayde Lords, by suche of them as were assigned to here " the openinge thereof, to the seyde Duke by the sayd Sir James; and " the same credence ceriously put in writynge by the Clarke of the " Parliament, to thende and affecte that, yf it be otharwyse reported to " have be seyde then it was in dede to the charge of eny person, it may " appeare of record suche as it is of truthe."

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 248.

32 Hen. VI. 1454. ford, Scrope of Masham, Zouche, Lovell, and Hoo and Hastings; and, on finding them to be true, fixed their fines at from £10 to £50 each.[1] Lord Say, who had been unjustly amerced, was excused from paying the fine, because he had, in fact, been present in Parliament within the specified time.[2]

Ralph Lord Cromwell, who had exhibited articles of the peace against the Duke of Exeter at the commencement of the session[3], presented a petition to the Council in July, stating that a priest of the name of Robert Colynson[4] was at that time in the Marshalsea, for having falsely slandered him; and he prayed that the Justices of the King's Bench might be ordered to detain Colynson in prison, until he had satisfied him for the damages he had suffered from his conduct, and paid the fines due to the King; with which the Council complied.[5]

In May a petition was presented to the Council by the Duke of Norfolk, stating, that at the election of Knights of the Shire for Suffolk in the preceding February, many of his servants and tenants attended to give their votes, but that the

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[1] pp. 181, 182, *postea.* [2] pp. 187, 188, *postea.*

[3] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 264.

[4] *Vide* Rot. Pat. 31 Hen. VI. m. 16. for the proceedings in this matter. Colynson was probably the person, who is thus mentioned in a letter in the Paston Correspondence, written in July, in or about this year: "The priest that accused Lords Cromwell, Grey, and my master (Sir "John Fastolf) will confess who caused him to do it, so that he may "have his life." Vol. iii. p. 129.

[5] p. 199, *postea.*

Sheriff, wishing "to make Knights of the Shire "after his own intent, and for his singular "covetise," and to injure the Duke's retainers, had charged them, in the Court of Exchequer, with having impeded the election, and by threats and menaces prevented his officers from performing their duty. The Duke said these accusations were totally unfounded, and he requested that the parties against whom they were brought might be allowed to answer by attorney.[1] It must be observed, that this complaint came with rather an ill grace from a nobleman who had frequently interfered in such matters, and who had shewn considerable displeasure whenever his nominees were not chosen, or when any attempt was made to prevent their election.[2] 32 Hen. VI. 1454.

It unfortunately happens that the few extant Proceedings of the Council in the 33rd of Henry the Sixth, throw little light upon the important events of that year. The King recovered his health and reason about Christmas 1454[3], and soon afterwards resumed the exercise of the Royal authority. The Protectorate was terminated in January, and the Duke of Somerset was released 33 Hen. VI. 1454. 1455.

[1] pp. 183, 184, *postea*.

[2] See the Paston Correspondence, vol. i. p. 97, and vol. iii. p. 241. An instance of the Duke of York's interference in elections occurs in vol. i. p. 99, of the same collection; and the interest which was then felt on those occasions is shewn by letters in vol. iii. pp. 153, 159.

[3] Paston Letters, vol. i. p. 80.

33 Hen.VI. 1455. from the Tower, on bail [1], upon the 7th of February 1455; but in March his recognizances were discharged upon his petition, in which he stated that he had been imprisoned "without any reasonable "ground or lawful process."[2]

No sooner had the Queen's party recovered power, than the friends of the Duke of York were removed from their offices. Salisbury was succeeded by the Bishop of Winchester as Lord Chancellor, and the Earl of Shrewsbury became Lord High Treasurer. On the 4th of March the King, to avoid dissensions, took the Captaincy of Calais into his own hands [3]; and he induced York and Somerset to consent that their quarrel should be settled by arbitration in the following June.[4] Before that time arrived, however, the Yorkists again took arms; and having defeated the Lancastrians in the battle of St. Alban's, on the 22nd of May[5], wherein the Duke of Somerset was slain, York regained his influence, and the King was obliged publicly to approve of his conduct, and to entrust the sole direction of affairs to his hands. Parliament having been summoned to meet on the 9th of July, the Government apprehending a collision between the Lords of the two factions, wisely commanded its own supporters

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 361.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 362.

[3] *Ibid.* p. 363.

[4] *Ibid.* pp. 362, 363.

[5] A very interesting account of this battle, and of many events in 1454 and 1455, will be found in the Paston Correspondence, vol. i. pp. 80, 100, 104-118; and vol. iii. pp. 220-250.

to attend with no other followers than their household servants, so that the Lancastrians might not have any excuse for acting in a different manner.[1] In that Parliament the Duke of York and his adherents were fully exonerated from all blame, as well for the battle of St. Alban's, as for their previous and subsequent proceedings.[2] On the 24th of July, York, Salisbury, and all the other Lords then present, solemnly swore allegiance to the King, and to defend his person and authority, which oath was ordered "to be enacted in the "Parliament Roll, and also to be written and in-"corporate in the *Book of the Council*, there to "remain of record among other acts and ordi-"nances."[3] It is much to be lamented that the "Book of the Council" thus referred to no longer exists; for with it have, undoubtedly, perished many of the most important historical records of Henry the Sixth's eventful reign. 33 Hen. VI. 1455.

Parliament was prorogued on the 31st of July to the 12th of November following[4]; but before adverting to what then took place, or to the circumstances which led to it, such of the Proceedings of the Council in the 33rd of Henry the Sixth as are interesting, will be pointed out. In November 1454, regulations were adopted, by a Great Council, for reducing the number of servants of the Royal household, and for placing it on

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[1] pp. 244, 245, *postea*.
[2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 280, 282.
[3] *Ibid.* pp. 282, 283.
[4] *Ibid.* p. 283.

33 Hen. VI. 1455. the same establishment as in the time of Henry the Fifth.[1] The Duke of Exeter, who appears to have been committed to Wallingford Castle in February 1455, and to have been still a prisoner there in the following June[2], is, however, stated to have been conducted to the King's presence, from Pomfret Castle, about the middle of March in that year.[3] In May, Commissioners were appointed throughout the realm to raise money for the defence of Calais, which was then menaced with a siege; and they were instructed to urge the importance of that "rare jewel for England" by every argument they could devise.[4]

It having been supposed that undue influence was about to be used in the election of Knights of the Shire for Kent, at which the King is stated to "marvail greatly, inasmuch as it is nothing to the "honour of the labourers, but against their wor- "ship, and against the laws of the land and ordi- "nances made in that behalf," the Sheriff was directed to proclaim the King's commands, that the county should have "their free election," and that whosoever interfered therewith would incur his grievous displeasure. The Sheriff was also ordered to take care that the peace was kept during the election, and immediately to acquaint the Council with the name of any one who might break it.[5]

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[1] pp. 200, 203, *postea.* [2] pp. 234, 246, *postea.*

[3] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 365. [4] pp. 234, 244, *postea.*

[5] pp. 246, 247, *postea.* Riots had also taken place at the election for Cambridge about this time. *Vide* p. 335, *postea.*

The fear of riots was justified by the state of Derbyshire, where tumultuous assemblies existed, the leaders of which were Sir John Gresley, Nicholas Gresley, and Roger Vernon, all of whom were ordered to appear before the Council in July, to answer for their conduct.[1] 33 Hen. VI. 1455.

The success of the Yorkists having excited the anger of James the Second of Scotland, instead of dispatching the embassy which he intended to send to this country, he attacked Berwick at the end of June or early in July, with the hope of taking it by surprize; but finding the garrison prepared, he abandoned the attempt.[2] Letters were written, on the 9th of July, to the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Northumberland, and the Lords Fitz Hugh and Scrope, Sir John Heron, and Robert Manners, Esquire, thanking them, in the warmest terms, for their services on the occasion. It is a remarkable proof of the rigorous manner in which the presence of Peers in Parliament was then exacted, and of their reluctance to attend, that Northumberland was exempted from appearing in the Parliament which was at that time sitting, as a reward for the zeal he had shewn in repelling the Scots.[3]

Only two articles in this year relating to Foreign affairs have been found. On the 25th of

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[1] pp. 250, 251, *postea.*

[2] Pinkerton's History of Scotland, vol. i. pp. 232, 233; and the Appendix thereto, p. 487.

[3] pp. 247, 250, *postea.*

33 Hen.VI. 1455. July a complaint was made to the Duchess of Burgundy, that in contravention of the treaties between the two countries, one of her subjects had seized and imprisoned the agent of the Mayor of the staple of Calais, until he surrendered certain money and goods; and restitution was demanded of that person and all his effects.[1]

Alphonso King of Portugal having sent a mission to this country with letters, requesting that some infractions of the treaties between the two Kingdoms, might be repaired, and the aggressors punished, was told, in August, that Henry had appointed persons to confer with his envoys, that his wishes should be complied with, and that every thing which was in Henry's power to maintain the peace should be performed.[2] That the assurances of friendship then made to Alphonso were sincere, appears from the fact, that he had been elected into the Order of the Garter; and his robes were directed to be sent to him in November in this year.[3]

34 Hen.VI. 1455. In consequence of the King having relapsed into his former illness in the summer of 1455[4], power was given to the Duke of York, on the

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[1] pp. 253, 254, *postea.* [2] pp. 257-258, *postea.*

[3] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 368.

[4] On the 5th of June 1455, Kemer, dean of Salisbury, an "expert, "notable, and proved man in the craft of medicine," was commanded to attend the King at Windsor, who was then, "as Kemer well knew," labouring under "sickness and infirmityes." Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 366.

10th of November in that year, to hold the Parliament which was then about to assemble; and, with the assent of the Council, to dissolve it. The Minute of the determination of the King, with the advice of the Council and of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal on that subject, is the earliest Proceeding of the Privy Council in the 34th of Henry the Sixth recorded in this volume.[1] 34 Hen. VI. 1455.

Immediately after Parliament had assembled, a general pardon of all treasons and other offences committed since the 9th of the preceding July was declared[2]; and on the 11th of November the Commons, who had twice before agitated the question, stated numerous reasons to the Lords, to shew the necessity of re-appointing a Protector of the Realm. The Lords answered, that the King, with their consent, had named the Duke of York for that office, who accepted it upon certain terms. One of those conditions was, that as some Members of the Privy Council had not theretofore attended as diligently as they ought to have done, from which neglect many affairs had been "thrown into great and "jeopardous omission, not executed," Parliament should appoint a proper number of Peers, Members of the Council, "not of favor nor affection, but "such as be approved of virtuous and righteous "disposition, of reason, wisdom, and indifferency, "and as will apply them to the tenderness and "good zeal of the honor and profit of our said

[1] pp. 261, 262, *postea.*

[2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 283, 284.

34 Hen. VI. 1455. "Sovereign Lord, and the good publique of his "said land and people; throwing therefore out of "their minds and remembrances the favor and "affection of all other things, and the dread and "nighness of any other person earthly."[1]

The Duke of York was appointed Protector and Defender of the Realm for the second time on the 19th of November 1455[2]; but on the 22nd of the same month the King committed the whole management of affairs to the Privy Council, of which York was, as before, the "Chief[3]," with a proviso, that in every thing relating to his Majesty's honor and dignity, or to the safety of his person, they should inform him "of what direction they take on them." All the Members of the Council, after protesting that "the high prerogative, pre-eminence, and autho- "rity of his Majesty Royal, and also the Sove- "reignty of them and all this land, is and always "must rest and shall rest in his most excellent "person," promised implicit obedience to his com- mands, and to do every thing to advance his "high prerogative, pre-eminence, and authority," "his high regalie and honorable estate and wel- "fare, and the felicity and surety of his person, "and also to the publique rule and government "of his land and of his subjects, as fully as ever "did any Councillors or subjects to their Sove- "reign."[4]

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 286.
[2] *Ibid.* pp. 287-289; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 369.
[3] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 288.
[4] *Ibid.* pp. 289, 290.

The style of these proceedings tends to shew, that although Henry might not then have been in perfect health, he was not so wholly incapable of attending to public business as during his former illness. After declaring his son, the young Edward, to be Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, and passing an Act of resumption of all grants made since the first year of his reign, Parliament was prorogued on the 13th of December, to the 14th of January following, one cause of which was said to be, that the Duke of York was about to proceed into the West, to suppress some riots and disturbances which had led to murders and various other crimes.[1] Parliament appears to have met in January 1456, and on the 25th of February in that year the Protectorate ceased[2], the King being again restored to health. 34 Hen.VI. 1455. 1456.

Great difficulty was then found to induce persons who were appointed Sheriffs to execute the office.[3] Sir John Tempest, the Sheriff of Lincolnshire, having positively refused to perform the duties unless he was guaranteed against loss, the Council were obliged, in November 1455, to make an

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 321.

[2] *Ibid.* pp. 321, 322; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 373.

[3] See also the Proceedings of the Council respecting the Sheriff of Lincolnshire, in March, 34 Hen.VI. 1456, pp. 331, 332, *postea*. It likewise appears, from a Letter Missive in the Tower, that the King having been requested to excuse John Botreaux from serving as Sheriff of Cornwall, his Majesty informed the Chancellor, that he "would not "change him or any other."

34 Hen.VI. 1455. arrangement to that effect[1]; but Hugh Lowther, who had shewn some unwillingness to accept he Shrievalty of Cumberland, was peremptorily commanded to act, upon pain of being fined £2,000, as the King would "in no wise admit any "excusation."[2] As shewing the disturbed state of the country about this period, and the onerous duties and expences of Sheriffs, the petition of John Stanhope, who had been Sheriff of Nottingham and Derby, merits attention. He stated, that but for the grace of the Crown in remitting payments due by his predecessors, they must have been ruined; and he prayed for a similar indulgence, on the grounds that he had been put to great expence in "gathering and taking with him "great numbers of people, at his own costs, to "come to the sessions of Oyer and Terminer held "at Chesterfield and Derby; in divers times "coming with much people to hold your Shires, "to resist such people as was not well disposed, "and in riding with much people, on his own "costs, in executing of his office, because the "people is wild; also in assembling 300 persons, "by virtue of letters of Privy Seal, for the rescue "of Berwick," and for other purposes.[3]

The influence of the Nevilles was shewn in a remarkable manner about this period, notwithstanding the Earl of Salisbury was no longer Chan-

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[1] pp. 263, 264, 272, 275, *postea.*

[2] pp. 271, 272, *postea.*

[3] pp. 272, 273, *postea.*

cellor. At the promotion of Bishops in April 1454, it was stipulated by the Council, that on the next vacancy the Earl's son, George Neville, should be raised to that dignity.[1] The See of Exeter became vacant in September in this year, when, from forgetfulness of the arrangement, John Hals was recommended by the King, and promoted by the Pope, to that diocese. It would, however, appear that Salisbury remonstrated strongly against the violation of the promise which had been made to his son; for in December 1455 a letter was written, in the King's name, to the Pontiff, and signed by the Council, stating the claims of "his "cousin," George Neville, and that at the instance of the Princes, Peers, and the whole Commonalty of the Realm, he had promised him the next vacant See, but had forgotten it when Hals, Archdeacon of Norwich, was recommended for it; that Neville had been unanimously elected by the Canons of Exeter to be their pastor; that Hals, from regard to the honor of that Church, and for the tranquillity of the Realm, had relinquished his promotion; and his Majesty therefore prayed his Holiness to confirm Neville's election. The Pope complied with Henry's request; for Neville, who seems to have possessed eminent abilities, became Bishop of Exeter in March following[2], and in 1459 Hals was made Bishop of Lichfield. 34 Hen. VI. 1455.

One among the reasons assigned by the Com-

[1] pp. li, lii, *antea*; p. 168, *postea*.

[2] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 376.

34 Hen. VI. 1455. mons for reviving the office of Protector was, that serious riots had taken place at Exeter, the Earl of Devon, with eight hundred horsemen and four thousand footmen, having robbed the Church in that city, put the canons and some country gentlemen to ransom, and committed many other great and heinous offences.[1] These disturbances are probably the same as are mentioned in a Letter from a contemporary, wherein it is said that they arose out of a quarrel between the Earl of Devon and Lord Bonville.[2] The tumults having assumed a serious character, the Duke of York was sent into the West to restore tranquillity; and on the 5th of December, letters were written to the Earls of Arundel and Wiltshire, the Lords Fitzwarine, St. Amand, and six other Lords, one of whom was Lord Bonville, stating the existence of the disturbances, and the intention of the Duke of York to proceed in person against the rioters; adding, that as the affair was of great consequence, it was requisite that the Duke should be properly attended by Lords and other persons of rank, for which reasons the Lords above named were appointed Commissioners for the suppression of those outrages.[3] Several Knights and Esquires of Devonshire were directed to afford every assistance in their power to the Duke of York and the Com-

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 285.

[2] Dated on St. Simon and St. Jude's day (28th October), and assigned to the year 1455. Paston Correspondence, vol. i. pp. 117, 118.

[3] pp. 267-269, *postea*.

missioners.[1] About this time the Commons peti- 34 Hen. VI. 1455.
tioned the King in Parliament, stating that robberies and murders had occurred in Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somersetshire, between the respective adherents of the Earl of Devon and Lord Bonville; and praying that, until a Commission had inquired into the matter, it might be enacted that Devon and Bonville should both be committed to prison without bail or mainprize, and that the Sheriff of Devonshire, who was suspected of favoring Lord Bonville, should be forbidden to interfere with the processes of the said Commission; but the King refused his consent to the Bill.[2]

The Minute of the Council of the 11th of December, empowering the Duke of York to prorogue Parliament, is remarkable from one of the members of the Council having signed it by proxy; at least, such is presumed to be the import of the signature, of which a facsimile is given.[3] Letters were sent to several Peers in December, strictly enjoining them to attend the Parliament which was to assemble in January 1456[4]; and those letters, which are both admonitory and threatening, are additional evidence of the extreme difficulty of inducing Peers to perform their Parliamentary duties. The only other article of the 1456.
34th of Henry the Sixth, which remains to be

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[1] pp. 269-271, *postea.*

[2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 332.

[3] p. 275, *postea.*

[4] pp. 279, 280, *postea.*

34 Hen.VI. 1456. noticed, is a letter, dated on the 8th of June 1456, to certain Knights and Esquires of Kent, directing them to attend a Commission of Oyer and Terminer, consisting of several Peers, the Judges, and others, which was to sit at Maidstone for the trial of persons who had committed riots in that county.[1]

35 Hen.VI. 1456. Two unimportant Proceedings of the Council[2] are all which have been found relating to the 35th of Henry the Sixth; and though the public instruments printed by Rymer, are far from numerous, the deficiency of information of public events of that year is, fortunately, supplied by the correspondence of the Paston family.[3] The most remarkable transaction was the removal of the Duke of York's friends from the Offices of State in October 1456; the Bishop of Winchester having succeeded the Earl of Salisbury as Chancellor on the 11th of that month[4], and the Earl of Shrewsbury being soon afterwards made Treasurer of England.[5]

36 Hen.VI. 1457. The very few Proceedings of the Council in the 36th of Henry the Sixth which now remain, are scarcely deserving of notice in this place. On

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[1] pp. 287, 289, *postea*. [2] pp. 290, 333, *postea*.

[3] *Vide* the Paston Letters, vol. i. pp. 132-135; and p. 24, between May and October 1456; (the letter in which page is erroneously assigned to the 18th of October 1449 instead of 1456.)

[4] p. 360, *postea*. [5] Rot. Pat. 35 Hen. VI. part I. m. 16.

the 29th of November a Great Council was summoned to meet at Westminster, on the 27th of January in the ensuing year, which was to determine various important affairs that had been discussed, but not settled, in a similar assembly lately held, and which the King had attended in person. The Peers were informed that his Majesty "would "have none excused of his coming to the said "Council in any wise that oweth to be there."[1] As the Earl of Arundel did not attend, a letter was written to him on the 14th of February 1458, informing him that the Great Council was sitting, that the King expected he would have been present before that time, considering the great causes for which the Council was called, "in especial to "set apart such variances as ben betwixt divers "Lords of this our realm; and, blessed be Jehu, "there is such diligence done in that behalf, "that we doubt not but the said variance shall "take fruitful conclusion, as we will in all wise "that they so do;" but as Arundel was "a great "Lord" his presence was necessary, and he was therefore peremptorily ordered to appear.[2] 36 Hen. VI. 1457. 1458.

Henry's expectations of forming an amicable arrangement between his discordant Peers were realized; and on the 4th of March the terms of agreement were drawn up in a solemn instrument[3],

[1] pp. 290, 293, *postea.* [2] pp. 293, 294, *postea.*

[3] It is printed at length in Whethamstede's Chronicle, pp. 418-428; *vide* also Fabian, p. 632. Both the Yorkists and Lancastrian Peers

36 Hen.VI. 1458. to which the Great Seal was affixed. A procession, consisting of the King, Queen, and Peers, to St. Paul's gave dignity and publicity to the reconciliation [1]; and such poets as England could then produce, celebrated the event in rhyme.[2] But the hope of permanent tranquillity proved fallacious. The real causes of the hatred of the two factions was of a nature which could only be removed by the total subjugation of one of them; and they both availed themselves of the calm to prepare for more vigorous proceedings.

In March 1458, the Council was obliged to take measures for resisting the French fleet, which had put to sea, and was on the North coast of England; and five hundred pounds were, therefore, granted to the Earl of Warwick for the equipment of a fleet to meet the enemy.[3] His engagement with a very superior force of Spaniards and Genoese, near Calais, on the 29th of May in this year, when, after displaying great gallantry, the

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attended the meeting with large retinues, York having 140 horsemen, and Salisbury 400, of which number there were 80 knights and esquires. The Duke of Somerset (the son of York's former rival) was attended by 200 horsemen. The Duke of Exeter and the Earl of Warwick had not arrived on the 1st of February. Exeter was much displeased that Warwick should hold the office of Captain of Calais, and have had the "keeping of the sea." See a letter in the Paston Correspondence, vol. i. pp. 150, 151, 156.

[1] Paston Letters, vol. i. p. 154.

[2] Cottonian MS., Vespasian, B. XVI., printed by Mr. Sharon Turner, vol. iii. p. 269, and another copy in the Cottonian MS., Nero, A. VI. printed literally in the Chronicle of London, p. 251.

[3] p. 295, *postea*.

English were defeated, is matter of history[1]; and a full account of the battle, by a person who was present, is preserved.[2] 36 Hen.VI. 1458.

All the Lords of the Council, which then consisted of thirty-three persons, namely, the two Archbishops; seven Bishops; the Dukes of York, Buckingham, and Norfolk; the Earls of Warwick, Salisbury, Shrewsbury, and Wiltshire; the Viscounts Beaumont and Bourchier; the Prior of St. John's; the Lords Grey of Ruthyn, Welles, Scales, Sudeley, Fauconberg, Dudley, Rivers, Beauchamp, Stourton, and Stanley; Sir John Wenlok; the Dean of St. Severins, and John Say, were ordered, on the 26th of August, to meet on the 11th of October 1458, by letters which stated, that though it was their duty to attend in Term time, yet, that they were thus specially summoned for matters "concerning specially our honor and "worship, and the welfare of this our land and "subjects."[3]

The only Proceedings of the Council of the thirty-seventh year of Henry the Sixth, which have been discovered, are unimportant. A Great Council was summoned to meet at Westminster on the 2nd of April 1459, to deliberate, among other matters, on sending an embassy to a Council and assembly of Princes, appointed by 37 Hen.VI. 1459.

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[1] Fabian, 633; Whethamstede, 447; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 415.

[2] Paston Letters, vol. i. pp. 158-160.

[3] p. 297, *postea*.

37 Hen.VI. 1459. the Pope to meet on the 1st of June following, for the defence of the Christian faith against the Turks and other infidels[1]; and the Bishop and Earl of Worcester, the Abbot of Peterborough, Lord Dudley, and Sir Philip Wentworth and others were selected for that mission.[2] In consequence of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem, who was a Peer of the English Parliament, having been summoned by the Grand Master of the Order to attend a Chapter at Rhodes in October, a letter was written to that personage, by the King, stating that he would not allow the Prior to leave England on account of his age and infirmities, and of the necessity of his presence for his Majesty's service. The Castellain and other English members of the Order were informed of the Prior's anxious desire to obey the Grand Master's commands, notwithstanding his inability to perform so long a journey, and of Henry's having forbidden him to undertake it; and they were moreover strictly forbidden, as the King's true subjects, to give their consent to any grant or charge which the Chapter might impose, if it were prejudicial to the laws of this country, on pain of such punishment as should be an example to others.[3]

38 Hen.VI. 1460. It is much to be regretted that none of the Proceedings of the Council throw any light upon the political struggles of the year 1459, the first

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[1] p. 298, *postea.* [2] p. 302, *postea.* [3] pp. 299-301, *postea.*

document in this volume, belonging to the 38th of Henry the Sixth, being subsequent to the battle of Northampton, in July 1460, when the Yorkists once more obtained the direction of affairs. On the 9th of August in that year, the Captains of several Castles in Wales were ordered to defend their fortresses against the rioters who were expected to attack them; to allow no persons to enter or fortify them; and to deliver possession of them to no one, unless they received special instructions from the King. 38 Hen. VI. 1460.

Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, Henry's uterine brother, the Captain of Denbigh Castle, and Roger Puleston, his Deputy, were both informed, on that occasion, that the King then considered the Duke of York, who had been attainted of high treason, in the Parliament holden at Coventry, in November 1459, to be his "approved and true liege man, and no traitor," his "true subject, and no rebel," his "right faithful friend, and none enemy;" and that the proceedings against him had been instigated "only by "cruel and malicious exhortation of his mortal "enemies," as it appeared by proclamations lately made throughout England and Wales; and they were commanded to deliver Denbigh Castle into the hands of the Duke's deputy. Lord Powis was, at the same time, ordered to surrender the custody of Montgomery Castle.[1] New efforts were

[1] pp. 303, 304, *postea*.

38 Hen.VI. 1460. made by the Council to suppress the riots in Wales; and on the 17th of August, authority was given to Sir William Herbert, Walter Devereux[1] and Roger Vaughan, Esquires, to take the necesry measures for that purpose. They were comanded to arrest the ringleaders and detain them prison, unless they could be safely sent to the ing; and to take possession of all castles and ther fortified places.[2]

The only other Proceeding of the Council in ie 38th of Henry the Sixth, which has been und, related to Sir John Neville, the son of the arl of Salisbury, and brother of the Bishop of xeter.[3] Sir John Neville, like the rest of his mily, was attainted by the Parliament which et at Coventry in November 1459; but, without waiting for the meeting of the next Parliament to reverse that attainder, the King restored Neville and his wife to their estates, probably by virtue of

[1] The confidence thus shewn to Devereux by the Yorkists, after their return to power, is deserving of notice. After the flight of the Yorkists at Ludiford, in October 1459, Lord Powis, Sir Henry Retford, and Walter Devereux, esquire, threw themselves on the King's mercy, who promised them their lives, but reserved the forfeiture of their property. (Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 349; Whethamstede, p. 473.) They were accordingly included in the sweeping act of attainder, passed in November 1459; but when the King gave his assent to that act, he refused to agree to so much of it as concerned Lord Powis and Devereux. (Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 350.) Though Devereux was placed in a post of importance by the Yorkists, Lord Powis, who was similarly circumstanced, was removed by them from the command of Montgomery Castle.

[2] pp. 304, 305, *postea.*

[3] The Bishop of Exeter was appointed Chancellor in the preceding July, immediately after the government fell into the hands of the Yorkists.

the power which was specially reserved to the King, when he assented to the Act of attainder of the Yorkists on that occasion, that it should not affect his Prerogative "to shew such mercy and grace as "might please him."[1] 38 Hen. VI. 1460.

Nothing has been ascertained of the Proceedings of the Council in the last year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, except a few Letters which were sent to the Earl of Arundel, the Lords Dacre, Delawarre, Cobham, and Abergavenny, several Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Mayors, and some private individuals in Kent, on the 28th of January 1461, when the young Duke of York, afterwards King Edward the Fourth, was raising an army to revenge the death of his father, who was slain at Wakefield on the 30th of the preceding month, and to resist the attempt made by the Queen to wrest the government from the adherents of his house. These Letters state, that the King had "certain knowledge that those misruled and out-"rageous people in the North parts of this "Realm, had been coming towards these parts, "to the destruction thereof, of you, and subver-"sion of all our land;" and the persons addressed were commanded to come to the King, in all possible haste, with as many followers as they could collect, he being about to proceed in person against his enemies.[2] 39 Hen. VI. 1461.

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 350.

[2] pp. 307-310, *postea*.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Some of the miscellaneous subjects which occupied the attention of the Privy Council between the twenty-second and thirty-ninth years of Henry the Sixth are rather curious.

In 1445, a Knight in the King's service, called Sir Andrew Ogard, who was a native of Denmark, having succeeded to lands in that country, considered it necessary to obtain Henry's permission, before he took possession of, and rendered the duties required by the Danish laws for them, although at that time the King of Denmark was in alliance with England.[1]

Two Petitions on religious matters, in 1449, shew the interference of the Crown in monastic establishments. A monk being desirous of removing to an Abbey of more rigorous discipline, or, as he described it, "to a harder Order," for the "more quiet and rest of his soul, to "the intent the more devoutly to serve and "please Almighty God," procured the Pope's permission to do so, without having first obtained the King's sanction, for which he prayed his Majesty to pardon him.[2] The Prioress and Nuns of Rowner in Hampshire[3], complained that they could not procure any priest to perform divine service, or, as they flatteringly expressed it, to pray for the King's noble estate and prosperity,

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[1] p. 38, *postea*.

[2] pp. 66, 67, *postea*.

[3] Rowner is called Rowney, and is erroneously stated, in the copy of the petition, to be in Hertfordshire.

unless they chose a young priest, which was not consistent with propriety, or one who demanded a larger salary than they could pay. A "good old "friar, a good preacher, their ghostly father, and "a man of good conversation," having, in this emergency, performed service in their Priory, and having given great satisfaction to the neighbourhood by his teaching and preaching, the Prioress and her sisters requested the King, "for their ease and "increasing of God's service," to order the Provincial of the Friars Minors to admit the said friar to the Priory of Rowner.[1]

It appears from the Council's Proceedings in 1450, and from other sources, that on the death of every Bishop of Ely, the King, by an ancient custom, was entitled to a horse saddled and bridled, a hat, a cloak, a ring, a cup, a lavour, and a mute of hounds, or to a commutation for the same.[2]

About 1445 or 1446, the Red Book of the Exchequer, the Roll of the Fifteenth Penny in all the Shires in England, the Register of Tenths of all the Dioceses of England and Wales, and other Rolls and Records in the Exchequer, were ordered to be transcribed in a large and legible hand in large volumes, as they were then partly decayed by time, and in such small writing, that they could scarcely be read, whereby great injury was produced, as well to the King as to his subjects.[3]

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[1] pp. 67, 68, *postea.*

[2] pp. 102, 103, *postea.*

[3] pp. 325, 326, *postea.*

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

The Bishop of Chester having cited the Parson of the Parish of Northerdon, in his Diocese, to appear before him to answer for some spiritual offence, "according to God's law," the Keeper of the Seal of the Earldom of Chester sent the Bishop or his Officers a prohibition in the matter, under the said Seal, at which the King said, "we mar-"vel greatly and be evil content;" and as the correction of souls belonged to the Bishop, to be exercised in his Diocese without any impediment, the party was ordered immediately to surcease such prohibitions, and never again to issue them, "for "the making of such prohibitions beth against "God's law and the Church's, and the Great "Charter, the which, at the time of the receiving "of our Crown, We be sworn upon the Holy "Evangelists to observe and keep."[1]

Towards the end of the volume several articles have been inserted, belonging to the early part of the reign of Henry the Sixth, which were not found until after the fifth volume was printed, together with others, the precise dates of which have not been ascertained.

Among those papers there is one of great importance, as it affords new and valuable information upon some points of Constitutional History. It consists of Regulations proposed by the Council, and afterwards approved and signed by the

[1] pp. 327, 328, *postea.*

King, respecting the manner in which Bills or Petitions presented to him should be examined, his pleasure taken thereon, and his commands carried into full legal effect. The date of this document, which is the original, is not mentioned; but it has been assigned, and probably with correctness, to the 22nd of Henry the Sixth, 1443-44. Though, apparently, only a fragment, the part which is lost seems, fortunately, to have related to a totally different, and less interesting subject, because the last paragraph is an ordinance for the prevention of riots, and has nothing whatever to do with what precedes it. MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Much inconvenience is said to have arisen from the King not having always been aware of the contents of Petitions, or of the consequence of complying with the requests of importunate suitors. After protesting that it was not the wish or intention of the Council, in submitting those propositions to the King, to interfere with the Royal prerogative, it was suggested that whenever a Lord of the Council, or any other individual, about the King's person, interested himself in promoting a Petition, he should sign it, so that it might be known through whom it had been granted; and if the petitioner himself could not write, that some other person should affix his name to it. The Petitions thus signed were to be delivered by the King to the person appointed to receive them, who was to examine their contents. If they related to matters of Justice, or of

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Common Law, the King's pleasure was to be taken, that they might be sent to the Council, to be by them referred to the proper Courts, unless the petitioners were unable to sue at Common Law. In cases where the Petitions were for matters of grace and favour, the person appointed to examine them was to indorse them briefly with what, by whom, and how many things were solicited; and he was to place his own signature thereto, in order that the King might the more readily learn the object of such Petitions, and either give his assent to them, or send them to the Council for their advice. When his Majesty granted any Petition, his commands were to be written at the foot of it, by the officer above mentioned, that is, whether it was wholly or partially granted; and the date and place at which, and in whose presence, especially in the presence of what Lords, the King had signified his pleasure in the matter, were also to be stated.

The King was then to sign the Petition immediately under such subscription, or to order his Chamberlain to sign it, or to take it to his Majesty's Secretary, with his commands respecting it, "so that from the time that it be made in "manner and form abovesaid signed, no man "shall mowe add thereto or minish."

In all Letters by which the King granted any thing, the following clause was to be inserted: "Provided alway, that the King hath not "granted the things asked to any other person

" before this time." All Warrants to, and copies of every thing which passed the Signet, whether Letters Missive, or other documents, were to be carefully and readily kept, so that it might be easily seen what things had passed; and that nothing might be done contrary to former proceedings. With the view of preventing hasty and injurious Grants, or, to use the quaint but forcible words of the original, " as such thing as " passeth the hands of many persons shall the " more readily and sadly pass, and any hurt that " else might grow to the King, or to prejudice " of any other person, the more to be eschewed," whenever the King granted any Bill it was to be delivered to his Secretary, who was to prepare Letters for carrying it into effect, sealed with the King's Signet, and addressed to the Keeper of the Privy Seal, and from thence, under the Privy Seal, to the Chancellor of England. MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

If the Keeper of the Privy Seal, on receiving a Letter from the King's Secretary, considered the matter to be of great importance, he was to communicate it to the Council, that the latter might, in cases of necessity, acquaint the King therewith before the grant passed.

The form of the oath to be taken by the persons appointed to examine Bills, was then prescribed, and to the effect that he would truly, justly, and faithfully perform his duty, be strictly impartial, and not accept of any gift for expediting, promoting, or hindering them.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

The last article of this Ordinance relates, as has been stated, to riots and disturbances, for the more effectual prevention of which, it was determined that no Lord of any degree whatsoever should knowingly receive or harbour in his household any robber, murderer, outlaw, ravisher, or any other notorious criminal, so that aggrieved parties might not be deterred from prosecuting them, in consequence of the protection afforded by the Nobility; that no Lord should, on any pretence, maintain any other man's cause or quarrel, or be displeased with any Judge or Officer for performing his duty according to Law, or impede, by word or writing, the due course of the King's Common Law; and that Lords should not only observe this themselves, but compel their servants and others, over whom they had influence or authority, to do so likewise. The neglect of these commands was to be punished, in the instance of a Privy Councillor, by his dismissal from the Council; and in the case of others, by being disqualified to become a Justice of the Peace, or to hold any other office. This part of the ordinance respecting riots was very similar to the measures taken in the 5th and 8th of Henry VI.[1], which were repeated in the 1st of Edward IV.[2]

In these Regulations the first approach was made towards rendering the KING'S SECRETARY a

[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. iii. p. 213; vol. iv. p. 35; and Rot. Parl. vol. iv. p. 344; vol. v. p. 408.

[2] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 487.

responsible functionary; and it is presumed that they shew when, and under what circumstances, safeguards were established against an improper exercise of the Royal prerogative, in granting honors, offices, lands, pardons, or immunities. It is remarkable, that while the Statute and Common Law of this country have been illustrated by some of its most learned writers, the origin, history, and duties of several of the highest Offices of the Crown, as well as many important points of Constitutional Law, have been, comparatively, neglected. This omission may be ascribed to two causes. Writers on the Law have naturally directed their attention to such parts of their profession as are of the most *practical* utility; and they have only touched incidentally upon questions of a more theoretical nature. Lord Coke, whose mind grasped every department of legal knowledge, has, indeed, often adverted to matters of this description; but, unfortunately, he has done little more than allude to them. Mr. Justice Blackstone purposely refrained from investigating the powers and duties of the great Officers of State, because "he "did not know that they are, in that capacity, in "any considerable degree the object of our Laws, "or had any important share of Magistracy con-"ferred upon them[1];" and all he says of the Secretaries of State, who are now pre-eminently the functionaries responsible to Parliament and the

[1] Commentaries, vol. v. p. 338.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

Country for the due administration of the Law, and for most of the Acts of the Government, is, that they are allowed the power of commitment to bring offenders to trial.[1] Nor are the omissions of Coke, Blackstone, and other jurists on these subjects, supplied by any writer whatever. A serious obstacle to inquiries of this nature has hitherto existed in the lamentable condition of the only authentic sources of information — the Public Records; and until Government shall cause them to be judiciously arranged, accurate catalogues of their contents compiled, and free access to them afforded, it will be impossible to write the History of ancient Institutions and Offices, or to understand thoroughly the machinery of the Constitution. In the meantime, however, something may be done towards the illustration of these subjects; and no apology can be necessary for here collecting the scattered notices which have been found in the Proceedings of the Council, and in other sources of undoubted authority, respecting the Office of the KING'S PRINCIPAL, FIRST, or CHIEF SECRETARY, or, as it was afterwards and is now called, the KING'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE; the duties of the KING'S CHAMBERLAIN in connection with Petitions and Grants; and the manner of carrying the King's Grants and Commands into complete legal effect; the latter of which subjects will occasion some observations to be made on the GREAT SEAL.

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[1] Commentaries, vol. v. p. 338.

## THE KING'S SECRETARY

KING'S SECRETARY.

In the only attempts which have been made to trace the History of the Office of SECRETARY of STATE, the mistake has been committed of supposing that there was a close resemblance between the duties of the "KING'S SECRETARY" in the thirteenth century, and those of the "SECRETARY of "STATE" of modern times. It cannot be doubted that our early Monarchs, as well as those of other Countries[1], were always attended by a learned ecclesiastic, originally called their "Clerk," and and afterwards their "Secretary," whose duty it was to conduct the King's correspondence, and to communicate his commands in writing to the high Officers of State, when those functionaries did not receive them from the Sovereign in person. They were not, however, in any sense of the term, Secre-

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1 "Parmi les Comtes qui souscrivirent le viii^e. Concile de Tolède, on "trouve un Comte de Notaires: c'étoit sans doute leur chef. Il étoit "en Espagne ce que pouvoit être alors en France le Grand Référendaire, "et depuis le Grand Chancelier, à qui Hinemar donne le nom de *Secré-* "*taire.* La dignité de Tribun & Notaire des Empereurs Romains étoit "équivalente à celle de *Secrétaire d'Etat.* M. Eckhart soutient, d'apres "Saumaise, que le terme *Secretarius,* pour signifier le Notaire ou le "Chancelier d'un Prince, étoit inconnu du temps de Louis le Débonnaire. "Mais M. Schannant lui oppose la 63^e lettre d'Alcuin, où Angilbert Abbé "de S. Riquier est appellé *Regiæ voluntatis Secretarius;* comme qui diroit, "Secrétaire des commandemens du Roi. Le titre de *Secrétaire d'Etat* "n'a été donné que sous Henri II. aux officiers qui portent aujourd'hui "ce titre. On les appelloit auparavant *Clercs* du Secret et Secrétaires "du Roi, &c." "Le Roi Philippe le Bel déclara, en 1309, qu'il y au- "roit près de sa personne trois Clercs du Secret & vingt sept Clercs ou "Notaires sous eux. Depuis Charle IX. les Secrétaires d'Etat ont ordi- nairement signé pour le Roi." (*V. N. T.*, 61, 62.)

KING'S SECRETARY.

taries of *State;* nor was that title ever attributed to them in England until the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and, except when they were Members of the Privy Council, they were never, in any degree, responsible for the measures of the Government.

The title of "*Principal*" or "*Chief*" or "*First* "Secretary" arose, not, as has been supposed, from the appointment, by Henry the Eighth, of a Second Principal or Chief Secretary, with co-ordinate powers and similar duties, but from the existence, at a very early time, of another Secretary of nearly the same rank, and with very similar duties, for the French, and in and after the time of Henry the Eighth, for the Latin language.

As the facts which have been discovered respecting the King's Secretaries, from the reign of Henry the Third to that of James the First, afford much information on the subject, and appear to have been hitherto unknown, they will be stated.

Henry III.

There is reason to believe that until the middle, or towards the close of the reign of Henry the Third, the "King's Secretary" was called the "King's Clerk," as that office is frequently mentioned in the Close Rolls of King John and Henry the Third. The first notice which has been found of the "King's Secretary" is in May, 37 Hen. III. 1253, when John Maunsell, Chancellor of London, and Provost of Beverley, was described by the title of "Secretarius noster" in his appointment as one

of the envoys to negociate an alliance with Spain.[1] Maunsell also held that situation in July 1254, when Prince Edward mentioned him as his father's Secretary[2]; and in the month of August following, when the King empowered him, by the title of "his Secretary," to give his assent to the marriage of Prince Edward with Eleanor of Castile[3]; but the office is not again attributed to him, although his name often occurs in the Public Records.

KING'S SECRETARY.

In July 1253, Henry the Third made his Will, by which he appointed Henry de Wengham one of his executors, by the description of "my Clerk."[4] There can be no doubt that the term "Clerk" was not used in that document in an ecclesiastical sense, as the King had already mentioned his Chaplain, and Wengham's name follows that of the Steward of his Household. It is remarkable that Maunsell, who, in the month of May in that year and in August 1254, was the King's Secretary, and who was also one of Henry's executors, is described only as "Provost of Beverley."

Under these circumstances, it is doubtful whether the appellation of the "King's Clerk"[5] was, or was not, at that period, sometimes syno-

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[1] Fœdera, new ed. vol. i. p. 290.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 304.
[3] *Ibid.* p. 306.
[4] *Ibid.* p. 496.
[5] In 1247 Sylvester, the "King's Clerk," and in 1425 John de Kilkenny, the "King's Clerk," executed the office of Chancellor. It is not unlikely that the "King's Clerk" sometimes meant the Clerk of the Crown, and at others one of the Clerks in Chancery; and it may also, in later times, have meant one of the Clerks of the Signet.

KING'S SECRETARY.

nimous with the "King's Secretary," or whether they were not a distinct office. The political importance of the situation of "King's Secretary," or "King's Clerk," when held by Maunsell and Wengham, cannot now be determined; but it is certain that they were both persons of considerable eminence, as in 1247 and 1249 Maunsell, and in 1255 Wengham, had the custody of the Great Seal; that in June 1258, if not before, both of them were members of the King's Council[1]; and that in 1260 Wengham was elected Bishop of London.

Edward I.

All that has been discovered respecting the King's Secretary in the reign of Edward the First is, that in July, 6 Edw. I. 1278, the King, in a letter to the Pope, said that he had sent Francis Accursii of Bononia, Professor of the Civil Law, "Consiliarius, Familiaris, et Secretarius noster," and others to his Holiness[2]; and that in November, 28 Edw. I. 1299, John de Benstede, Clerk, was described as "ipsius Domini Regis Secretarius."[3] As both Accursii and Benstede seem, from the other situations which they filled[4], to have been men of

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[1] Rot. Pat., 42 Hen. III. m. 6. [2] Fœdera, new ed. vol. i. p. *559*.

[3] *Ibid.* p. 916.

[4] Accursii was on more than one occasion sent as envoy to the Pope, a most difficult and important mission, for which persons of the highest talents, and in whom the King had the greatest confidence, were selected. (Fœdera, new ed., vol. i. p. 562.) Other notices of Accursii will be found in the same volume, pp. 516, 524, 598, 741. Benstede was Keeper of the Great Seal in 1297, a member of the Council in 1304, and in 1305 was made Chancellor. (Fœdera, new ed., vol. i. p. 876; vol. ii. pp. 966, 974.) He is not described as King's Secretary after 1299.

considerable talents, it may be inferred that the office of King's Secretary required ability and discretion; and that it generally led to some of the highest Offices in the State. The situation of "King's Clerk" was filled, in the 18th Edw. I. 1290, by William de Grenfeld, a Canon of York, who was also one of the King's Councillors[1]; but Grenfeld may either have been the Clerk of the Crown, or the King's Secretary.[2]

KING'S SECRETARY.

Nothing has been found respecting the office of King's Secretary during the reign of Edward the Second, except that "Dominus Willielmus "de Melton" is described as the King's Secretary in March 1308[3]; and he was probably the person of that name who was afterwards Lord Chancellor and Archbishop of York; but in the reign of Edward the Third there is some curious information on the subject.

Edward II.

In November, in the 21st Edw. III. 1347, Regulations were made for the government of the King's Household, from which it appears that the King's Secretary received forty-six shillings and eight-pence a year for his salary; but his condition is most clearly shewn by comparing it with that of the King's other officers. He was evidently much inferior in station, not only to the Treasurer, Comptroller, Keeper of the Privy Seal, Cofferer, Almoner, Dean of the Chapel, and other of the superior

Edward III.

[1] Fœdera, new ed., vol. i. p. 741.

[2] *Vide* p. xcix. n. 5.

[3] Rot. Claus., 1 Edw. II. m. 7. d.



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KING'S SECRETARY.

Officers of the Household, but even to the King's Physicians, all of whom received double the amount of his wages. The King's Secretary was, moreover, classed both in rank and pay, with the Receivers of the Chamber, the Clerks of the Kitchen, the Clerk Marshal, the Clerks of the Wardrobe, Market, and Privy Seal, the Chaplains, and the Surgeon.[1] Of Edward the Third's Secretaries not even the names have been ascertained; but the celebrated Froissart states, in the Preface to his Chronicles, that he had been in his youth Secretary to Queen Philippa.

Richard II.

Nothing more has been discovered of the Secretaries to Richard the Second, than that Robert Braybroke is described as "nostre Secretaire" in a Letter Missive[2] to the Chancellor, dated in September 1379. Braybroke was evidently the person who was elected Bishop of London in 1381, and who was appointed Lord Chancellor in September in the same year. It also appears that Isabel, the Queen of Richard the Second, had a Secretary, who, like her Confessor, formed part of her Household, and was probably also a Priest.[3]

Henry IV.

About the year 1402, Henry the Fourth appointed John Prophet, a priest, who had been Clerk of the Council in the reign of his predecessor[4], and was at that time a Privy Coun-

[1] Ordinances and Regulations for the Government of the Royal Household, 4to, 1790, p. 10.

[2] Ex orig. in Turr. London.

[3] Proceedings of the Council, 2 Hen. IV., vol. i. p. 137.

[4] *Ibid.* pp. 12 b, 14 b, *et passim.*

cillor, his Secretary. It is deserving of observation, that Prophet seems to have resigned his seat in the Council on being made the King's Secretary[1]; but whether he did so from the incompatibility of the two situations, or from any other cause, cannot now be determined. He continued to hold that office until the 13th Hen. IV. 1412, when he was appointed Keeper of the Privy Seal[2]; and the name of his successor is not known. Though it is almost certain that Prophet was not a member of the Privy Council after he became Secretary, he was nevertheless a person of much consideration; for in October, in the 4th of Henry IV. 1402, when the Commons requested the King to allow them to communicate with some Lords of Parliament on the affairs of the Realm, he sent Lord Say, the Steward of his Household, and Prophet his Secretary, to them, to state that he had complied with their request, not, however, as a matter of right or custom, but of his special grace on that occasion; whence it appears that a conference between the Lords and Commons could not be claimed as a matter of right, nor take place without the special consent of the Crown.[3]

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In the early part of the reign of Henry the Fifth, a Priest of the name of John Stone was

HENRY V.

[1] See a letter from Prophet in the Proceedings of the Privy Council, 4th Hen. IV. 1403, vol. ii. p. 78.

[2] Rot. Pat., 13 Hen. IV. m. 10.

[3] Rot. Parl., 4 Hen. IV., vol. iii. p. 486.

KING'S SECRETARY. the King's Secretary[1]; but before May 1421 he was succeeded by William Alnewick, also an ecclesiastic, and who is recorded to have been then present in, even if he was not a member of the Privy Council.[2] After the accession of Henry the Sixth, Alnewick delivered up certain documents to Parliament[3]; and was soon afterwards made Keeper of the Privy Seal[4], and in 1426 was elected Bishop of Norwich.

Henry VI. The first notice of the King's Secretary in the reign of Henry the Sixth is in March 1432, when, at the instance of the Duke of Gloucester, a change took place in the Officers of the Royal Household. On the 1st of that month the King's Chamberlain and Steward, the Dean of the Chapel, and the King's Almoner were superseded, and William Hayton, the King's Secretary, was dismissed from his office. No person was appointed to succeed him; but the Signet, which had been in his charge, was placed in a bag, sealed with the Duke of Gloucester's signet, and delivered into the custody of the Treasurer of the Exchequer.[5] Of Hayton, who was a priest, nothing more is known; and the next notice of the King's Secretary is in June 1439, when the office was held by Thomas

[1] He is so described in Henry the Fifth's Will, dated in July, 3 Hen. V. 1415; Fœdera, vol. ix. p. 292.

[2] Proceedings of the Council, vol. ii. p. 315.

[3] Rot. Parl., 1 Hen. VI. 1422, vol. iv. p. 179.

[4] He held that office as early as March, 2 Hen. VI. 1424; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 327.

[5] Proceedings of the Council, 10 Hen. VI., vol. iv. p. 110.

Beckington, Doctor of Laws[1], a Member of the Privy Council[2]; and a person of great ability and learning. Beckington seems to have continued the King's Secretary until July 1443[3], when he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal; and in September in the same year he became Bishop of Bath and Wells.[4] It has not been ascertained who succeeded him; but in July 1460, Thomas Mannyng was the King's Secretary.[5] He was one of the King's Chaplains, and in April 1454 obtained the Deanery of St. George's Chapel at Windsor.[6] In 1455, he received and read the Letters addressed by the Duke of York to the King before the battle of St. Albans[7], and was one of the Receivers of Petitions in the Parliament at Coventry in November 1459.[8] Mannyng, with the other Lancastrians, was attainted of high treason immediately after the accession of Edward the Fourth.[9]

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The first time a second Secretary to the King is mentioned, is in the 12th Hen. VI. 1433, when the name of John Ryvel occurs as the King's

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[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. v. pp. 334, 335.

[2] He was a member of the Council as early as December 1432. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. x. pp. 527, 530.

[3] Beckington was certainly the King's Secretary in February 1443. See the Journal of his Embassy to negociate the King's marriage with a daughter of the Count of Armagnac in 1442 and 1443. London, 8vo. 1828.

[4] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 58.

[5] p. 361, *postea.*

[6] p. 169, *postea.*

[7] Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 282.

[8] *Ibid.* p. 345.

[9] *Ibid.* 1 Edw. IV., vol. v. p. 477. Mannyng was therein described as "late of New Windsor in Berkshire, Clerk."

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Secretary[1], and who is styled, in February 1435, "the King's Secretary in his Realm of France."[2] In October 1442 both John Ryvel and Gervais de Vulre were described as the "King's Secretaries[3]," and the latter, by the appellation of "Maister "Gervays le Volore, one of your Secretaries," was accused by the Commons, in 1451, of having misbehaved about the Royal person, and in other places, to the injury of his service; upon which the Commons wished to remove him, with several others, from the King's presence, for the rest of their lives.[4] These persons were evidently the King's Secretaries for the affairs of France.

Notwithstanding the King's English Secretary was then often a Privy Councillor, his office had not increased in rank or importance. In the Ordinances for the government of the Royal Household, made in November 33 Hen. VI. 1454[5], as in those of Edward the Third[6], the Secretary was

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[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. iv. p. 187.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 291. He was sometimes merely described as "Our Clerk "and Secretary." *Vide* Rot. Parl., 23 Hen. VI. 1444, vol. v. p. 88 b., and the Proceedings of the Council, vol. v. pp. 210, 213. On the 30th of June 1434, James Lunayn was called "the King's Secretary of his "Kingdom of France." *Ibid.* vol. v. p. 259.

[3] *Ibid.* vol. v. pp. 210, 213, 217, 221, 297.

[4] Rot. Parl., 29 Hen. VI. vol. v. p. 216.

[5] pp. 222-224, *postea.* These Regulations were printed by the Society of Antiquaries in the Collection of Ordinances relating to the Household, in 1790, but not correctly; for example,—

"Ch'lrs—Ch'rs iiij. ev'ich of theym ij. yomen"

are there called "*Chamberers,*" instead of Chevaliers.

[6] *Vide* p. cii, *antea.*

placed after the Physician and Knights of the Body, or, as they were sometimes called, Knights of the Household; and he and his two Clerks were allowed only two yeomen, whilst the King's Carvers were allowed an Esquire and two yeomen each, the principal Physician two yeomen, and each of the Knights of the Body and the second Physician one yeoman. It is therefore evident that in the middle of the fifteenth century the King's Secretary was an Officer only one degree higher in consideration than the King's Chaplain and the King's Esquires, and that he was of inferior rank to the Knights of the King's Household, and his Physicians. KING'S SECRETARY.

The notices of the King's Secretaries in the time of Edward the Fourth are more frequent than in any preceding period; and they afford information from which more certain conclusions can be drawn. In September, 4 Edw. IV. 1464, William Hatclyffe was one of the King's Secretaries[1], and he was a Member of the Council as early as 1467[2], at which time, as well as upon every other occasion he is called "Our "Secretary and Councillor."[3] Hatclyffe still held that office in the 20th Edw. IV. 1480, when a coadjutor was given him[4], on account of his age or infirmities, and he died in the same year.[5] The identity of his name with that of William Hatclyffe who was Edward IV.

[1] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 532.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 590.
[3] *Ibid. passim*, and vol. xii. pp. 30, 33.
[4] Rot. Pat., 20 Edw. IV. m. 18.
[5] *Ibid.* m. 5.

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a Physician to Henry the Sixth in 1454[1], and who was certainly living in 1468[2], suggests the possibility of his being the same person. In the 8th Edw. IV. 1468, John Prophet (probably a relation of the person of that name who was Secretary to Henry the Fourth[3],) obtained a grant of the office of Secretary "in lingua Gallica" for life, to hold it as Master Gervaise[4] had done, with a salary of £20 per annum.[5] Prophet either died or was removed before 1476, as on the 18th of March in that year, Oliver King, "Master of the seven "liberal Arts, and Licentiate in Laws," was appointed the King's First and Principal Secretary in the French language for life, with the same fees as Master Gervaise, late Secretary in England for the said language, had received.[6]

The term "Principal Secretary" did not, therefore, always mean Principal of *all* the King's Secretaries, but merely of a different department; and it appears that the duties of both the King's Principal Secretaries were nearly the same, without reference to one of them being designated the Secretary for the French language. The office of French Secretary arose from the affairs of France having, in the reigns of Henry the Fifth and Sixth, required the appointment of a person purposely

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[1] pp. 167, 223, *postea.*

[2] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 635.

[3] p. cii, *antea.*

[4] p. cvi, *antea.*

[5] Rot. Claus., 8 Edw. IV. m. 19.

[6] Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 26; Rot. Pat., 16 Edw. IV. p. 1. m. 25. 17 Edw. IV. p. 1.

to attend to them, and who was generally called the "King's Secretary in his Realm of France"; but, like many others, it was retained long after the necessity for its creation had ceased, under the title of "the King's Secretary for the French language". In fact, however, the Secretary for the French language was then little else than the King's second Secretary, for it was specially provided in Dr. King's patent, that he should receive all kinds of Bills and Warrants issued by the King's hand, and prepare all Warrants whatsoever addressed to the Chancellor or to the Privy Seal, together with all Letters, as well in Latin as in English, and should receive for them the accustomed fees.[1] In the 20th Edw. IV. 1480, Dr. King was appointed coadjutor to Hatclyffe in the office of Secretary; and it was ordered that he should have the custody of the Signet in Hatclyffe's absence, and succeed him after his decease.[2] As the King's Secretary was appointed by his Majesty's merely placing his Signet in his custody, and as it was then in the charge of Hatclyffe, it was necessary to appoint his coadjutor by Letters Patent; by which instrument, however, the Secretaries for the French and Latin languages have always been appointed. Hatclyffe having died in 1480, he was succeeded by Dr. King; and Master Stephen Fryon became Secretary for the French language, with a

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 26.

[2] Rot. Pat., 20 Edw. IV. p. 2. m. 23.

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salary of £10, in the room of Dr. King, in the same year.[1]

The rank and emoluments of King's Secretary in the time of Edward the Fourth remained the same as in the two preceding reigns. In the "Liber Niger Domûs Regis Angliæ," containing Regulations for the King's Household, the office of Secretary is mentioned immediately after the Knights of the Household, and before the four Chaplains. He was allowed a gentleman to attend upon him, and had four Clerks, with "sufficient "writers of the King's Signet under him;" all of whom were supported at His Majesty's expence.[2]

The King's Secretary was also classed with the Knights of the Household in the Sumptuary Law, restraining excess in apparel, in the 22nd Edw. IV. 1482. It was then ordained that no person under the degree of a Lord should wear plain cloth of gold, or under that of a Knight any velvet in their gowns, or that those below the rank of a Lord should wear any gown or cloak unless it were of sufficient length, "he being up-

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[1] Rot. Claus., 20 Edw. IV. m. 11; Rot. Pat., 21 Edw. IV. p. 2. m. 1.

[2] The passage relating to the King's Secretary is as follows:—

"A Secretary sitting in the King's chambre or hall with a person "of like servyse; and he shall have eting in the hall, one gentilman. "Item, for his chambre for all day, iij. loves, ij. messes of grete mete, "dim' a picher wyne, ij. gallons ale, one torche, one percher, ij. candells "wax, iij. candells peris' in wynter season, and iij. tallwood, ruyshes and "litter, all the yere of the serjeaunt ussher of the hall and chambyr, "parchemynte and paper, sufficiaunt of the office of the grete spycery, "by oversyght of comptroller or his clerks, and that to be allowed in

" right, to cover his privy members and buttocks ;" but it was specially provided, that the Act should not be prejudicial to the liberty of wearing cloth and fur (purple and cloth of gold only excepted, the former of which was reserved to the Royal family, and the latter to Peers,) by eight Knights who were named, and who were the Knights of the Household, " nor of M. Oliver King, the King's " Secretary, nor to the Dean of the Chapel or " the Treasurer of the Household."[1]

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Edward the Fourth was attended in his expedition to France, in 1475, by Hatclyffe his Secretary, who received two shillings per diem ; and a gentleman, his servant, was allowed £36 8s. for one

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" the countyng-house, and also red wax ; and whan he hathe nede of " muche writing, than he to have comaundment from the seyd countyng- " house for perchers of tallowe or smaller candells peris'. To this office " are belonging iiij. clerks, sufficiaunt Writers of the King's Signet under " the seide Secretary, eting dayly in the King's hall; and for theyre " lyverey at nyght a gallon ale, and in wynter season, one candell " peris' ; and whan theyre business requireth, then, by the Secretary's " proper recorde, these clerks to have dynners and soupers to theyre " scriptory, taking so for one mele one payne, one messe gros de cusyn, " dim' a gallon servoise. The Secretary and his clerks pay for theire " carriage of harneys in courte, except a littell coffer in which the King's " warraunts and billes assigned, and other lettres and remembraunces " be kept apon a filace. This coffyr is carried at the King's cost, " whereas the Countroller wull assigne. The Secretary he hath into " this courte iij. persones wayters on hym for all that office. The " remanent of all other servaunts to be founden at his lyvery in the " countrey deliverede by the herberger, sufficiauntly for hym and all " the clerks ; and whan hymself is oute of courte, he hath a yoman to " kepe his chaumber, etyng at the Chaumberlayn's bourde in the hall : " both he and his clerks take clothing of the King's warderober."

[1] Rot. Parl. vol. vi. pp. 220, 221.

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man-at-arms and thirteen archers for one quarter's wages. The Secretary's salary was the same as that of the King's Physician, and the Clerk of the Council.[1]

Richard III.

Richard the Third on his accession to the throne displaced Dr. King, and appointed John Kendal, who seems to have been Chief Clerk of the King's Bench[2], his Secretary. Kendal was present, and is described as the King's Secretary on the 1st of August 1485, when the Great Seal was delivered to the Master of the Rolls.[3] He had the same allowance of scarlet cloth for Richard's coronation as the Treasurer of the Household, which was less than was given to the Judges and Serjeants-at-Law, but considerably more than the Clerk of the Council received.[4] Kendal, with the other adherents of Richard, was afterwards attainted of high treason.[5]

Henry VII.

King Henry the Seventh appointed Dr. Richard Fox his Secretary[6], and re-appointed Stephen Fryon his Secretary of the French language, as soon as he ascended the throne.[7] Fox became

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 848.

[2] Rot. Pat., temp. Edw. V. He obtained the offices of Comptroller of the Exchange, and Assayer of the Mint, and was re-appointed Chief Clerk and Keeper of the Rolls of the King's Bench in 1 Ric. III., Rot. Pat. eo ann.

[3] Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 272.

[4] Antiquarian Repertory, ed. 1807, vol. i. p. 53.

[5] Rot. Parl., vol. vi. p. 276.

[6] *Ibid.*, 1 Hen. VII., 1485, vol. vi. pp. 361, 377.

[7] *Ibid.* p. 375; and Rot. Pat., 1 Hen. VII., p. 1. m. 1z. Richard the Third also retained Fryon in that office, Rot. Pat. 1 Ric. III., m. 3.

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Bishop of Exeter in April 1487; and seems to have been succeeded by Dr. Oliver King, who had been Secretary to Edward the Fourth, for in August 1489 one of the persons present at Windsor at the confirmation of the treaty of peace with Portugal, was "Master Oliver King, our Secretary." It is worthy of attention, as indicating that the King's Secretary was of higher importance than he had hitherto been considered, that he was classed with the Barons in the list of witnesses on that occasion.[1] Dr. King was probably at that time a Privy Councillor, for in May 1492 he was styled "our Councillor and Secretary."[2] He was made Bishop of Exeter in October following; and his successor appears to have been Dr. Thomas Routhale, who certainly was the King's Secretary in May 1500[3], August 1504[4], and in March 1509, when he was appointed one of the executors of the King's Will; at which time, and probably many years before, he was also a Privy Councillor.

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 379. "Præsentibus tunc ibidem Reverendissimo in
" Christo patre Johanne Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi, totius Angliæ Pri-
" mate, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legato, Cancellario nostro Angliæ, ac venera-
" bili in Christo patre Ricardo Episcopo Exoniensi, Custode Privati
" Sigilli nostri; ac clarissimis Dominis Henrico Northumbriæ, Georgio
" Salopiæ, et Henrico Essexiæ, Comitibus; Georgio Stanley de Straunge,
" Milite; Ricardo Nevyll de Latymer, et Johanne le Souche de Souche,
" Magistro Olivero Kyng, Secretario nostro, Baronibus; Thoma Lovell
" et Ricardo Guldeford, Militibus; testibus ad præmissa vocatis spe-
" cialiter et rogatis."

[2] Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 477.

[3] *Ibid.* p. 753.

[4] *Ibid.* vol. xiii. p. 107.

KING'S SECRETARY. Henry VIII.

In July 1509, a few months after the accession of King Henry the Eighth, Dr. Routhale was elected Bishop of Durham; but he continued the King's Secretary until May 1515, when he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal.[1] The Bishop of Durham was succeeded by Dr. Richard Pace, Dean of St. Paul's[2], who in April 1520, and again in 1523, was described as "Principal Secretary."[3] Pace became deranged in mind, and is said to have been succeeded by Dr. William Knight, who was appointed in August 1526, for on the 21st of that month he wrote to Wolsey: "The said day being "Monday the King did ride on hunting. The "next day I did speak with his Highness, and "He did make unto me very honorable recule, "with delivery of His Signet, and many good "words, for which all I most humbly thank your "Grace."[4] Knight was still Secretary in August 1527[5]; and probably for a short time afterwards.

The nature of the office of King's Secretary,

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xiii. p. 553.

[2] It is said, in a note to the "State Papers" (vol. i. p. 2.), that Pace was appointed in 1515; but he is only described as "Master Richard "Pace, Archdeacon of Dorset," in his appointment to treat with the envoys from the Helvetick States, dated on the 21st of February, 7 Hen. VIII. 1516. (Fœdera, vol. xiii. p. 547.) The earliest letter signed by him among the "State Papers" is dated on the 5th of July 1518. On the 7th of May, 28 Hen. VIII., 1536, Peter Vannes, Prebendary of Bedwyn, the King's Latin Secretary, was appointed coadjutor of Richard Pace, Dean of Salisbury, who was then labouring under mental infirmity, in the performance of his ecclesiastical duties. Fœdera, vol. xiv. p. 568.

[3] Fœdera, vol. xiii. p. 714; Rot. Pat. 15 Hen. VIII. p. 1.

[4] State Papers, vol. i. p. 172. [5] *Ibid.* p. 261.

as it existed in the early part of the reign of Henry the Eighth, is shewn, in a very satisfactory manner, by the Correspondence of Dr. Pace and Dr. Knight with Cardinal Wolsey and Lord Cromwell, whence it appears that its duties did not then involve any Ministerial responsibility. It is also manifest that Henry did not always entrust his Secretary with the communication of affairs of a very secret nature, and that he read every letter, and dictated the answers thereto, himself. In July 1518 the King wrote, with his own hand, to inform Wolsey that he had received his letters "to the which "(because they ask long writing) I have made "answer by my Secretary; two things there be "which be so secret that they cause me at this "time to write to you myself."[1] Dr. Pace, the Principal Secretary, said, in a letter to Wolsey in 1521, "Whereas your Grace commandeth me to [read] "unto the King all such letters as I shall write "in matters of weight and great importance by his "commandment, to your Grace, I have continually "so done, and shall not fail, in time to come, to "do the same; and his Grace is well contented to "hear them, as he commanded me to write unto "your Grace in my last letters; and I, by my "will, would write no letter of importance that "should pass by my hands, not viewed by his "Grace, for mine own discharge, and especially "in such causes as be now in hand. Wherefore I

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[1] State Papers, vol. i. p. 1.

KING'S SECRETARY. "shall be greatly bound unto your Grace, if it "shall please the same, to move the King by "writing, to be contented that all letters of im- "portance, touching these great affairs, may pass "under His sign and seal, for the surety of all "those that shall meddle with them."[1] Wolsey having expressed his displeasure, that Secretary Pace had not fully communicated the contents of his letters to the King, but had only done so "diminutely;" Pace said in his reply, "I never "rehearsed your Grace's letters, diminutely, or "fully, but by the King's express command- "ment; who readeth all your letters with great "diligence, and mine answers made to the same, "not by my device, but by his instructions. "And as for one of my letters, which was unto "your Grace very displeasant, as it appeared "by your answer to the same, I had, at that "time, devised a letter in the same matter, "far discrepant from that ye received; but the "King would not approve the same, and said "that he would himself devise an answer to your "Grace's letters, sent to him at that time; and "commanded me to bring your said letters in to "his Privy Chamber with pen and ink, and there "he would declare unto me what I should write. "And when his Grace had your said letters, he "read the same three times, and marked such "places as it pleased him to make answer unto,

[1] State Papers, vol. i. pp. 26, 27.

" and commanded me to write and to rehearse, as " liked him, and not further to meddle with that " answer. So that I herein nothing did, but " obeyed the King's commandment, as to my " duty appertaineth, and especially at such time " as he would, upon good grounds, be obeyed, " whosoever spake to the contrary. As touching " untrue information, to be made by me to the " King, of your Grace's letters, I am sorry ye do " lay that to my charge; for if I did untruly in- " form his Highness of any part of the same " letters ,that be of so great weight and importance, " I should not only deal unkindly and falsely " with your Grace, but also be a manifest traitor " to the King; which crime in me, by the grace " of God, shall never be found: for though I " lack wit, yet for faith and truth, I dare compare " with any servant the King hath. Furthermore, " if I would inform the King otherwise of your " Grace's letters than the truth is, I conith not " so do without great shame, and to mine own " evident ruin; for his Grace doth read them " all his self, and examine the same at leisure, " with great deliberation, and hath better wit to " understand them, than I to inform him."[1] KING'S SECRETARY.

In a letter which Pace soon afterwards wrote to Wolsey, he seems to have complained that an irregularity had been committed respecting the business of his office, as he says, " Whereas the

[1] State Papers, vol. i. p. 80.

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"Mayor of London hath lately sent to your "Grace a transumpt, written both in the Spanish "tongue and Latin, I advertise your Grace that "he therein hath negligently done, for he should "have sent the same to me, and I to your Grace, "declaring the King's pleasure touching that "matter[1]," which he proceeds to state.

In September 1526, Dr. Knight, whom Wolsey describes as "a wise, trusty, faithful subject, and "Councillor[2]," wrote to the Cardinal: "In all "letters, and specially those that beth in French, "sent from your Grace unto His Highness, to be "signed, there is a little billet contained, for the "King's better information of subscription of the "letters, His Highness willed me to desire your "Grace, that I might have a memorial, how the "said letters should be subscribed, without any "further using of the said billets; inasmuch as "it hath pleased His Highness, and your Grace, "that I should give continual attendance upon "him."[3]

Ordinances were made at Eltham for the government of Henry the Eighth's Household in January 1526, which, together with subsequent Regulations on the subject, afford much curious information about the King's establishment, and the Officers attached to his person. For the promotion of Justice, for deciding on the numerous Petitions which were presented to his Majesty, and for the

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[1] State Papers, vol. i. p. 82. [2] *Ibid.* p. 270. [3] *Ibid.* p. 176.

better management of the affairs of the Kingdom, Henry appointed "a good number of honourable, "virtuous, sad, wise, expert, and discreet persons "of his Council." Among them was "the Secre- "tary," who is placed between the Comptroller and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; and it was ordered that ten of those persons, one of whom was the Secretary, should constantly attend the Council.[1] The King's Secretary was lodged within the Court, and was allowed stabling for eight horses, and three beds for his servants, being the same as was allowed to the Vice-Chamberlain, and to such Knights and others, as were Members of the Privy Council.[2] The Queen had likewise a Secretary; but he was allowed only five horses and two beds, being two horses less than her Majesty's Vice-Chamberlain.[3]

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About June 1529, Dr. Stephen Gardiner is supposed to have been made Principal Secretary[4]; but he was still Clerk of the Council in October in that year.[5] Dr. Gardiner was elected Bishop of Winchester in December 1531, when he probably resigned the Secretaryship; and all that is known of his successor is, that Thomas Cromwell, a Privy Councillor, is said to have been appointed Principal, or, as he was often termed,

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[1] Regulations of the Royal Household, 4to, 1790, pp. 159, 160.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 198.

[3] *Ibid.* p. 199.

[4] State Papers, vol. i. p. 337.

[5] Fœdera, vol. xiv. p. 349.

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Chief[1] or First[2] Secretary, between the 7th of December 1533, and the 12th of April 1534[3]; and that he held that office until he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal[4] on the 2nd, and a Peer on the 9th, of July 1536.

Lord Cromwell's immediate successor was Thomas Wriothesley, afterwards Earl of Southampton; and the next notice of the King's Chief Secretary occurs in the Statute regulating Precedency, or, as it is entitled, "for placing the "Lords," which was passed in the Parliament that met at Westminster on the 28th of April 1539. After providing for the Precedency of the Spiritual Peers, the Act states, that the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer, the Lord President of the Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the Great Chamberlain, the Constable, the Lord Marshal, the Lord Admiral, the Grand Master or Lord Steward of the Household, the King's Chamberlain, and the King's Secretary, had not theretofore had a place appointed them in Parliament by reason of those Offices, and Precedency

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[1] State Papers, vol. i. pp. 439, 442, *et passim.*

[2] Cromwell was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer on the 12th of April, 24 Hen. VIII. 1533, and on the 12th of April, 25 Hen. VIII. 1534, he was described as the King's "First Secretary." Fœdera, vol. xiv. pp. 456, 536.

[3] State Papers, vol. i. p. 425.

[4] Fœdera, vol. xiv. p. 572. Cromwell was still Secretary in May 1536, when, by the title of "our Secretary," he obtained a Prebend in the Church of Salisbury. *Ibid.* p. 569.

is then assigned to them respectively. The sixth clause is as follows:— KING'S SECRETARY.

"And it is also enacted by authority afore-
"said, That the King's Chief Secretary, being
"of the degree of a Baron of the Parliament,
"shall sit and be placed afore and above all
"Barons, not having any of the Offices above
"mentioned; and if he be a Bishop, that then
"he shall sit and be placed above all other
"Bishops, not having any of the Offices above
"remembered."

It is afterwards provided:—

"That all Dukes not afore mentioned, Mar-
"quesses, Earls, Viscounts, and Barons, not having
"any of the Offices aforesaid, shall sit and be
"placed after their ancienty, as it hath been accus-
"tomed."

It was also enacted,—

"That if any person or persons which at
"any time hereafter shall happen to have any
"of the said Offices of Lord Chancellor, Lord
"Treasurer, Lord President of the King's Coun-
"cil, Lord Privy Seal, or Chief Secretary,
"shall be under the degree of a Baron of the
"Parliament, by reason whereof they can have
"no interest to give any assent or dissent in
"the said House, that then, in every such case,
"such of them as shall happen to be under
"the said degree of a Baron, shall sit and be
"placed at the uppermost part of the sacks in
"the midst of the said Parliament Chamber,

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" either there to sit upon one form, or upon the " uppermost sack, the one of them above the " other, in order as is above rehearsed."

It was further enacted,—

" That as well in all Parliaments as in the " Star Chamber, and in all other Assemblies and " Conferences of Council, the Lord Chancellor, " the Lord Treasurer, the Lord President, the " Lord Privy Seal, the Great Chamberlain, the " Constable, the Marshal, the Lord Admiral, the " Grand Master or Lord Steward, the King's " Chamberlain, and the King's Chief Secretary, " shall sit and be placed in such order and fashion " as is above rehearsed, and not in any other place, " by authority of this present Act."[1]

As the King's Secretary is spoken of in the singular number, it may be inferred that the Office was held by one person only; but it is probable that he was then assisted in his higher duties by Sir Ralph Sadler, (who certainly conducted the King's correspondence as early as July 1538[2],)

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[1] Stat. 31 Hen. VIII. c. 10.

[2] See State Papers, vol. i. pp. 578, 580, 581. That some of the other Secretaries, and, in their absence, the Clerks of the Signet, occasionally wrote the King's letters, is evident from a letter from Sir Thomas Heneage to Wolsey, written at Tittenhanger in 1528, telling him that the King desired he would send his letters to some Bishops and Abbots, respecting certain offices, which Sir William Compton had held under them, " to stay them until His pleasure be farther known; for he neither " knoweth them, ne hath any Secretaries or other of the Signet here to " make out his letters." (State Papers, vol. i. p. 306.)

and, in business of little importance, by the Secretary for the Latin and French languages.[1] KING'S SECRETARY.

A very important change soon afterwards took place in the Office of the King's Principal Secretary, by the division of it between two persons, who were to bear the same title, perform the same duties, and hold the same rank. The Warrant for their appointment has been lately printed[2]; and though the date is not stated, it is evident, from its referring to the Act for Precedency, that it must have been issued after April 1539.

The Warrant commences by providing "that "Thomas Wriothesley and Ralph Sadler, and every "of them, shall have the Name and Office of "the King's Majesty's Principal Secretaries during "his Highness's pleasure," and that all fees belonging to the Office of his Majesty's Principal Secretary shall be equally divided between them. They were to "keep two of his Grace's

[1] In November, 10 Hen. VII. 1494, and August, 10 Hen. VIII. 1518, John Meautis was the King's Secretary for the French language. (Fœdera, vol. xii. p. 566; and vol. xiii. p. 206.) In January 1541, Thomas Sentemount had that situation, but he was soon afterwards succeeded by John Masyn, who was appointed Clerk of the Council, *pro tempore*, in September in that year. (Proceedings of the Council, vol. vii. pp. 122, 248.) In the 3rd Edw. VI. 1549, Peter Vannes was appointed *Latin* Secretary for life, to execute that office himself, or by his sufficient deputy, (Fœdera, vol. xv. p. 200), which appears to have been the first appointment of a Latin Secretary; an office which was afterwards dignified by the occupation of Milton, and which still exists. Vannes was still Latin Secretary in February 1542.

[2] State Papers, vol. i. p. 623.

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"Seals called his Signets, and seal such things, "warrants, and writings, both for inward and "outward parties, as had been accustomed to be "passed by them." Each of them was to keep a Book of such Warrants as passed by either of their hands, and "the one was to be always "made privy to the other's Register." They were both to be lodged in the King's palace, with the allowances which had been hitherto assigned to the Secretary. Whenever the Lord Privy Seal was present in the Court, both the Secretaries were "to accompany him at his table," and during his absence they were to have his diet for themselves, and such others as were appointed to that table. In all Councils, as well in the King's Household as in the Star Chamber, and elsewhere, all Peers and the Treasurer, Comptroller, Master of the Horse, and the Vice-Chamberlain were to sit above them; but they were to be placed next to the Vice-Chamberlain, and above all other Members of the Privy Council.

Notwithstanding the provision of the Act for Precedency, that the Principal Secretary should always sit in the House of Lords upon one of the woolsacks, yet, in consideration of the services which Wriothesley and Sadler might render in the Lower House, where they then had seats, it was ordered that, during the King's pleasure, they should both sit on the woolsacks in the House of Lords, on such days as the King, or the Speaker, was present; but that on all other days one of them

should sit one week in the House of Lords, and the other in the House of Commons alternately, except on those days when special matters were treated of in the Lower House, on which occasions they were both permitted to attend therein. In all other places, as well in the King's Household as elsewhere, they were to enjoy the place of the Principal Secretary, in the accustomed manner. KING'S SECRETARY.

This alteration in the office of King's Principal Secretary has been supposed to have arisen from the disgrace of Cromwell, which occurred about the time when the change took place[1]; but however probable that conjecture may be, there is reason to believe that the Royal Warrant only carried into effect an arrangement which had, in fact, for some time existed, and which closely resembled the appointment of Dr. King, as coadjutor to Secretary Hatclyffe, in the reign of Edward the Fourth.[2]

It is very remarkable, that the Precedency given to the Principal Secretaries by the King's Warrant, should be at variance with that assigned to the Chief Secretary by the Statute of the 31st of Hen. VIII., though it is the same that has ever since been held by the Secretaries of State, when below the rank of Peers. By the Statute, the Chief Secretary is to be placed in all Parliaments and Councils next after the King's Chamberlain, and nothing is said of the Treasurer and Comptroller of the Household, the Master of the Horse, or the

[1] State Papers, Preface, p. xi.

[2] p. cix, *antea*.

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Vice-Chamberlain; but the Warrant states, that all those Officers, as well as all Peers, shall sit above the Principal Secretaries. Upon the subject of the King's prerogative in granting Precedency some doubts have been expressed; and without entering into the questions, whether the Statute of the 31st Hen. VIII. had, or was intended to have, any operation except in Parliaments and Councils, or whether the Royal Prerogative was, or was not, restrained by that Act, it is sufficient to observe that the Precedency assigned to the Principal Secretaries by the Statute is the proper rank of a Secretary of State when a Commoner; for not only have the regulations prescribed by the Warrant never passed the Great Seal, but even if they had done so, Letters Patent could not controul the provisions of an Act of Parliament.

It is doubtful how long the arrangement that the two Principal Secretaries should sit alternately, or together, in either House of Parliament, subsisted. In the House of Lords they were merely auditors, and, like the Judges and Masters in Chancery, might sit therein without creating an anomaly or inconvenience; but it was evidently not contemplated that their attendance in the Lower House should continue after Wriothesley and Sadler ceased to be Members of the House of Commons. At this moment, however, the Principal Secretaries of State have clearly the right of sitting on the uppermost part of the sacks in the midst of the House of Lords according

to the Statute, "either there to sit upon a form, "or upon the uppermost sack," though the privilege has been rarely exercised. KING'S SECRETARY.

In August 1540, Sir Thomas Wriothesley and Sir Ralph Sadler were respectively called "the "King's Principal Secretary," and were then both Privy Councillors. They continued the King's Secretaries so late as September 1543[1]; and probably until Wriothesley was raised to the Peerage, and made Lord Keeper, in April 1544.

Shortly after Wriothesley's promotion, Regulations were again made for the government of the Royal Household[2], wherein a list occurs of the Officers of State, and of all the King's servants. Among the Officers are "Sir "Thomas [William] Paget, Sir William Peter[3], and

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[1] Fœdera, vol. xv. p. 8.

[2] These Regulations, which are entitled "Bouche of Court," are included in the "Collection of Ordinances for the Royal Household," printed by the Society of Antiquaries in 1790, and exhibit a remarkable instance of editorial carelessness. Notwithstanding every name in the list of the Officers of the Household proves that the article could not possibly have been compiled before the 36th Hen. VIII. 1544, it follows, and is called part of, the Ordinances made at Eltham in January, 17 Hen. VIII. 1526. This error is the more glaring from the fact, not only that the manuscript of the Ordinances made at Eltham clearly shews that this article does not belong to them, but it does not even occur in any part of the volume (Harleian MS. 642), from which it professes to have been printed.

[3] It is said that Sir William Peter was made Principal Secretary on Wriothesley's promotion. (State Papers, vol. i. p. 764.) Sir William Paget was described as one of the two Principal Secretaries on the 26th of June 1544, and Sir William Peter bore that designation on the 11th of July in the same year. (Fœdera, vol. xv. pp. 30, 46.) In

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"Mr. Haire, Secretaries." Sir William Paget, who had been Secretary to the Queen, and Clerk of the Council[1], and Sir William Peter, were the two Principal Secretaries, and Mr. Haire was probably the French or Latin Secretary.[2] It was at the same time ordered that the two Secretaries should sit in their own chambers, and be served by their own servants; and their allowance for diet was settled[3], the annual expence of which amounted to the large sum, for that period, of £813.[4]

From the year 1540 to the present time, there have been sometimes two Principal Secretaries, and occasionally there have been, as at present, no less than three. The first instance of there being three Principal Secretaries was in June 1553, when Sir John Cheke was appointed, in addition to Sir William Peter and Sir William Cecill.[5]

The documents printed in the Fœdera tend to shew, that for many years after the accession of Queen Elizabeth, there was only one Principal Secretary. Sir William Cecill, afterwards the celebrated Lord Burleigh, held that Office for many years, and on being made Lord Treasurer

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January 1547, Sir William Paget was styled "Chief of Your Majesty's "two Principal Secretaries." (State Papers, vol. i. p. 897.)

[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. vii. pp. 2, 248.

[2] Regulations of the Household, p. 165. [3] *Ibid.* pp. 172, 188.

[4] *Ibid.* p. 192.

[5] State Papers, vol. i. p. xi. On the 12th of April in that year, however, Sir William Cecill was described as "one of our *two* Secretaries." Fœdera, vol. xv. p. 330.

and a Peer in 1571, he was succeeded by Sir Thomas Smith, who was followed by Sir Francis Walsingham. In 1578 Dr. Wilson became Joint Principal Secretary, and that situation was filled by the unfortunate Davison in October 1586. KING'S SECRETARY.

No earlier instance has been discovered of the use of the title "Secretary of *State*[1]" than in February, 43 Eliz. 1601, when Sir Robert Cecill was styled "our Principal Secretary of Estate." His coadjutor was John Herbert, Esquire, who is described in the same instrument as one of "our "Secretaries of Estate."[2] In the next reign the title became generally adopted, in its more modern term, of "Secretary of State."

During the reign of King James the First, there were at one period three Principal Secretaries called "Secretaries of State;" and mention is made of a Secretary for Scotland, and of an "Under "Secretary," as well as of the Queen's Secretary[3]

[1] It would appear, from the manner in which the two Principal Secretaries are described in the Commission for the trial of Mary Queen of Scots, dated on the 6th of October 1586, that the appellation of "Secretary *of State*" was not then used. Among the Commissioners were "Sir Francis Walsingham, one of our Principal Secretaries, and "another of our Privy Council," and "William Davison, Esquire, "another of our Principal Secretaries, and of the Privy Council." John Wolley, the Latin Secretary, was then also a person of some consideration, for he was a Privy Councillor, and was one of the Commissioners for Mary's trial.

[2] Fœdera, vol. xvi. p. 399.

[3] "Sir John Herbert, our Under Secretary;" "Sir James Elvaston, 'Knight, our Secretary for Scotland;" "Mr. Fowler, Secretary to our 'dear bedfellow." Ordinances for the King's Household, (17th July to Jan. 1. 1604,) p. 307.

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who was described as the "Queen's Principal "Secretary and Master of Requests."[1]

In the time of Queen Elizabeth the annual fee or salary of the Principal Secretary was £100, with a table; of the Secretary in the Latin tongue £40, with a table; and of the Secretary in the French tongue, £66, 13*s.* 4*d.*, but he was not provided with a table[2]; and no alteration seems to have been made in those salaries and allowances until after the Revolution of 1689.[3] In the reign of William and Mary the first Principal Secretary was allowed £730 per annum for his "board "wages," whilst his colleague received only £292.[4]

The co-existence of more than two Secretaries of State is said to have been only "a casual deviation "from the usual practice," until the Union with Scotland, "when the number was professedlyin-"creased to three;" and the following statement is also taken from the preface to the State Papers, lately printed by a Commission issued in 1830 for the publication of the more valuable documents in the State Paper Office:—

"Soon after the Union with Scotland the "number of Secretaries of State was professedly "increased to three. Queen Anne, on the 3rd "of February 1708, declared in Council, that the

[1] Collection of Ordinances for the Royal Household, 4to. 1790, p. 350.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 250. These allowances appear to have been independent of Fees.

[3] *Vide* Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, p. 58; Archæologia, vol. xv. p. 77; and the Additional MS. in the British Museum, 4610. f. 17.

[4] Collection of Ordinances for the Royal Household, p. 406.

" public business increasing, her Majesty had " thought fit to appoint a third Secretary of " State of Great Britain, but that she intended " nevertheless, to continue the Foreign Affairs, " for the present, in the course of dispatch " they were then in; and on the same day " James Duke of Queensberry was sworn one of " her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State."[1] " He and his successors were esteemed Secre- " taries of State for Scottish affairs; but the prac- " tice of appointing such an Officer was discontin- " nued in 1746, when John Marquis of Tweeddale " resigned the Seals; and there were only two " Secretaries of State 'till the 20th of January " 1768, when William Earl of Shelburne, being " Secretary of State, and Mr. Seymour Conway " having resigned that Office, Thomas Viscount " Weymouth, and Wills Earl of Hillsborough were " sworn Secretaries of State[1], the latter becoming " a third Secretary, and being destined to act " for the Colonies. But by the Statute 22 Geo. III. " c. 82. 'the Office commonly called or known by " 'the name of Third Secretary of State, or Secre- " 'tary of State for the Colonies,' was, among " others, suppressed and abolished; and from that " time the number of Secretaries of State remained " two, until the 11th of July 1794, when William " Henry Duke of Portland was made a Secretary " of State[1] in addition to William Wyndham, Lord

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[1] "Council Register."

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" Grenville, and Henry Dundas. And the number " has since that period been constantly three."

It appears from the preceding statements, that although the Office of King's Secretary has always been held by confidential persons, selected on account of their talents, yet that for many centuries it bore little resemblance, either in its duties or responsibility, to that of a Secretary of State in modern times. While learning was to be found only in the cloister, the King's Secretary was a priest; and a layman never appears to have held that situation until the middle of the reign of King Henry the Eighth. After a few years service he was frequently promoted to the office of Keeper of the Privy Seal, and was sometimes rewarded with a Mitre. He was originally appointed by the delivery of the King's Signet; and that circumstance, unlike the delivery of the Great Seal, was not recorded, or necessarily performed in the presence of witnesses. No Patent was issued for the appointment of a Principal Secretary (except for the French and Latin languages) until the year 1578; and it is therefore very difficult to ascertain the names of the various persons who have held that situation. In January in that year Dr. Thomas Wilson was appointed one of the Principal Secretaries, by Patent[1], since which time the Secre-

[1] As that Patent is the earliest which is known to have been issued to a Secretary of State, a copy of it is subjoined:—

" Regina omnibus ad quos &c. salutem. Sciatis quod nos de fidelitate " industria prudentia experientia et aliis virtutibus egregiis dilecti et

taries of State have been usually, if not always, appointed by Patent, after receiving the Signet from the King's hands. KING'S SECRETARY.

Though the first of the King's Secretaries, of whom the name has been discovered, was a Member of the Council, it was not until towards the middle of Henry the Sixth's reign that they were

" fidelis Consiliarii nostri Thomæ Wylson armigeri plurimum confidentes " ipsum Thomam Wilson unum Secretariorum nostrorum Primariorum " nominamus ordinamus et constituimus per præsentes. Habendum et " gaudendum Officium unius Secretariorum nostrorum Primariorum " prædictorum præfato Thomæ Wilson cum omnibus commoditatibus " præeminentiis locis dignitatibus allocationibus et emolumentis quibus- " cumque eidem Officio spectantibus sive pertinentibus durante bene- " placito nostro. Et ulterius dedimus et concessimus ac per præsentes " damus et concedimus eidem Thomæ Wylson erga supportacionem " onerum suorum sibi ratione Officii prædicti incumbentium quandam " annuitatem sive annualem redditum centum librarum Habendum " gaudendum et percipiendum dictam annuitatem sive annualem red- " ditum centum librarum præfato Thomæ Wylson a festo Sancti " Michaelis Archangeli ultimo præterito ante datam præsentium durante " vita sua de thesauro nostro hæredum et successorum nostrorum ad " Receptam Scaccarii nostri Westmonasterii hæredum et successorum " nostrorum per manus Thesaurarii et Camerariorum ejusdem ad " quatuor anni terminos videlicet ad festa Natalis Domini Annuntia- " tionis Beatæ Mariæ Virginis Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptistæ et " Sancti Michaelis Archangeli per equales portiones solvendum absque " ullo compoto aut aliquo alio nobis hæredibus vel successoribus nostris " reddendo sive solvendo. Præcipimus etiam ac per præsentes eisdem " Thesaurario et Camerariis pro tempore existentibus mandamus quod " de thesauro nostro hæredum et successorum nostrorum in custodia sua " pro tempore existente dictam annuitatem sive annualem redditum " centum librarum eidem Thomæ Wylson armigero et assignatis suis " solutionem fieri facient de festo in festum secundum vim formam et " effectum hujus nostræ concessionis. Eo quod expressa mentio &c. " In cujus rei &c. Teste Regina apud Westmonasterium quinto die " Januarii. Per breve de Privato Sigillo."

*Rot. Pat.*, 20 *Eliz. part* 10.

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always Privy Councillors. As the affairs of the Country were then conducted entirely by the King and his Continual or Privy Council, his Secretary, when a Member of the Council, of course shared the responsibility of the other Councillors; but except in being one of the King's Councillors, he was a mere executive Officer, answerable only to the Sovereign himself for the manner in which he performed duties involving no Constitutional responsibility, and consisting merely in a faithful and implicit obedience to the King's commands. The duties of the King's Principal Secretary seem, therefore, formerly to have more closely resembled those of the King's Private Secretary [1], than those of the Secretaries of State, of the present day.

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[1] As the situation of KING'S PRIVATE SECRETARY is of a peculiar nature, and has been the subject of discussion in the House of Commons, a few observations respecting it will be expected in this place. It appears that the first Sovereign who employed a *Private* Secretary, since the Revolution at least, was King George the Third, to whom a confidential person in that capacity was absolutely necessary on his Majesty's becoming afflicted with the loss of sight. When his late Majesty, George the Fourth, became Regent, and Colonel Mac Mahon, a Privy Councillor, was appointed his Private Secretary, with a salary of £2,000 per annum, the subject was brought before the House of Commons on the 14th of April 1812, and caused an animated and important debate. It was contended that such an Office was dangerous and unconstitutional, as it must inevitably render the person holding it a secret adviser of the King, with a degree of influence over the Royal mind inconsistent with the forms of Government in this country, and destructive of a fundamental principle of the Constitution, namely, that no one can use the name of the Sovereign, offer Him advice, or convey His commands, except he be one of the responsible Ministers of the Crown, answerable to Parliament for his conduct. But it was said, on the other hand, that the Office was not one of responsibility; but was precisely like that of any other Private Secretary

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Although the Office of the King's Principal Secretary has gradually become one of the most important in the Government, it is not easy to state precisely when, or under what circumstances, the change took place. The commencement of the reign of Henry the Eighth may, perhaps, be considered as the period when the King's Secretary became an Officer of great consideration, because the situation was then held, for the first time, by a person of the rank of Bishop; it having always been usual for its possessor to resign the Office on being raised to the Episcopal bench. Dr. Routhale, who had been Secretary to Henry the Seventh, retained that employment, however, for nearly six years after he became Bishop of Durham; and it is not unlikely that the office itself was raised in estimation from being held by a Prelate of his eminent station and abilities.

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in any other Office of the State, differing only in the rank of the personage under whom it was held; that it was only an instrument for carrying on the business of the Country; that if the appointment was not divested of all responsibility there would be nothing to justify it in the view of the Parliament; and it was particularly stated by Lord Castlereagh, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that the individual holding it was "incom-" petent to communicate the pleasure of the King in any way that " could authorize any subject in the land to attend to it, or to act upon " it with official responsibility." (*Vide* Cobbett's Parliamentary Debates.) The attempt to prevent Colonel Mac Mahon's appointment having been defeated upon a division, by a Ministerial majority of 176 to 100, there has ever since been a Private Secretary to the King; and as many of the Statesmen who, in 1812, considered the situation improper, have subsequently held Office, and have not made any efforts for its abolition, it may, perhaps, be inferred that they have not found its existence inconvenient in practice, however unconstitutional it may appear in theory.

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In the reigns of Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth, the duty of the Principal Secretaries was still very different from that of their more recent successors, and their authority very inferior. Perhaps the change may be assigned to the period when the affairs of the Country were conducted by the Cabinet, instead of the Privy Council, an *imperium in imperio* which followed the Revolution of 1689, and which concentrated all the powers of the Crown in a few, instead of being divided among many of its advisers. To whatever causes the alteration in the nature of the Office of Principal Secretary may be ascribed, it took place without any express Law; and that fact affords another proof of the manner in which the Constitution has accommodated itself to circumstances, and of the difficulty of tracing, even the functions and powers of some of the highest Officers of the Crown, to any defined or legal source. Without Letters Patent, much less an Act of the Legislature, (instruments which are necessary for the creation of, and appointment to, many of the humblest Public offices,) the King's Secretary, from being little more than the clerical instrument for conveying his Sovereign's commands, has become one of the most influential Ministers of State, whose signature is absolutely requisite to legalize nearly every act of the Crown; whose authority to use the King's name cannot be disputed by any one, except by the King himself; who is

answerable with his liberty and life to Parliament for the Constitutional and judicious exercise of the Prerogatives of the Crown; and who, in the present distribution of the Office among three individuals of co-ordinate authority, performs most of the functions of the Government, with, all but, undefinable powers and unlimited authority. KING'S SECRETARY.

When the origin and history of the Office are considered, it is not surprising that the right of a Secretary of State to act in a Magisterial capacity, in cases which involved the liberty of the subject, should have been doubted, or that the determination of a Court of Law in favour of that right[1] should have been afterwards questioned.[2] It was clear that his powers were derived neither from the Common, nor the Statute Law; and though, from

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[1] See the case of the King *v.* Rowe and Kendall, in the reign of William the Third, Comberbach, 343; 1 Salkeld, 347; 12 Modern, 82.

[2] The subject is fully treated of in some papers under the title of "The Craftsman," in the Gentleman's Magazine, in the years 1731 and 1732, vol. i. p. 477; vol. ii. pp. 914, 941. The powers of a Secretary of State on points of this nature were much discussed in the case of the celebrated John Wilkes in 1763, with reference to General Warrants. Lord Chief Justice Pratt cautiously refrained from attributing to the Office the authority upon which Lords Halifax and Egremont acted. In giving judgment he said, "he should consider "a Secretary of State's Warrant, through the whole affair, as nothing "superior to the Warrant of a common Justice of the Peace;" and though it was contended that the Warrant issued on that occasion was "according to the uninterrupted practice of the Secretary of State's "Office," it was said, that no Warrants of a similar form could be found, after a diligent search, before the reign of the Stuarts, and very few before the time of Lord Arlington, who was Secretary of State to Charles the Second. *Ibid.* vol. xxxiii. p. 242; vol. xxxiv. p. 622.

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analogy, the right of commitment was held by Lord Chief Justice Holt to be incidental to the Office, there would have been some difficulty in finding a precedent for the decision.[1]

To the preceding remarks on the anomalous, if not dangerous, situation of a Minister, who is obliged to exercise great powers without his authority being defined, it is satisfactory to be able to add the corroborative opinion of an eminent Statesman, who had experienced the difficulties and perils of such a position. Sir Robert Cecill, the first Earl of Salisbury, who was Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth and James the First, wrote a tract[2], entitled "The State and Dignity of a "Secretary's of Estates Place, with the Care and "Peril thereof," which commences with the following observation:—

"All Officers and Councillors of Princes have "a prescribed Authority by Patent, by Custom, or "by Oath[3], the Secretary only excepted; but to "the Secretary, out of a confidence and singular "affection, there is a liberty to negotiate at dis-"cretion, at home and abroad, with friends and "enemies, in all matters of speech and intelli-

[1] See Searcher's case, temp. Eliz., 1 Leonard, 70.

[2] This tract, which consists only of four leaves, was printed in 1642. There are several manuscript copies of it in the British Museum, the one in the Harleian MS. 354. being called "The State of a Secretary's "place, and the Perill."

[3] It is not known when the Secretaries of State first took an oath of Office; but "the Oath of a Secretary of State," occurs in a curious collection entitled "THE BOOK OF OATHS," 18mo, printed in 1649.

" gence. All Servants of Princes deal upon strong " and wary authority, and warrant disbursements " as Treasurers, in conference with enemies as " General, in Commissions in executing Offices by " Patent and Instructions, and so in whatsoever " else; only a Secretary hath no warrant of Com- " mission, no not in matters of his own." Lord Salisbury afterwards says:—" On the other side " the place of a Secretary is dreadful if he serve " not a constant Prince; for he that liveth by " trust ought to serve truly, so he that lives at " mercy ought to be careful in the choice of his " master, that he be just and *de bonâ naturâ*." KING'S SECRETARY.

All that need be added on the subject in this place, is the following extract from the preface to the volume of " State Papers " already cited:—

" The Secretaries of State are still constituted, " as in ancient times, by the King's delivery to them " of the Seals of Office; but, in addition to this " investiture, they have always in modern times " received also a Patent under the Great Seal. " This was certainly the case, as early as the ap- " pointment of Dr. Wilson, in 1578, and probably " earlier. Whatever be their number, they con- " stitute but one Officer, and are co-ordinate and " equal in rank and authority. Each is competent " to execute any part of the duties of the Secretary " of State, the ordinary division of those duties " between them being merely matter of arrange- " ment, for the more convenient dispatch of " business. From an early period to 1782, the two

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"Departments were denominated the Northern and "Southern. In that year a new distribution was "made, and the Departments were styled the Home "and the Foreign, of which the former attended "to the Colonial affairs until the revival of the third "Secretaryship, in 1794, when the superintendence "of the Colonies was taken from the Home Secre- "tary, and conducted in the new office, which "likewise carried on the correspondence arising "out of the war, then in progress."[1]

Upon other subjects connected with the duties of the King's Secretary, at an early period, as well as with an important question which is illustrated by the Ordinance of the Council before referred to, some observations remain to be made.

## THE GREAT SEAL.

THE GREAT SEAL.

The progress of Constitutional liberty in this Country is shewn, not so much by the actual restraints that have been imposed upon the powers of the Crown, as by the efforts which have been made to render the King's advisers responsible to Parliament, that those powers shall be exercised in conformity with Law and Expediency; and this object has been principally obtained by the appointment of one or more Officers of State, whose sanction and concurrence are absolutely necessary to give effect to the Royal commands.

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[1] State Papers, vol. i. p. xii.

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In common with most of his subjects[1], the King has from a very early period attested every solemn act, by affixing to the instrument either his greater or smaller Seal, according to its importance. When the manner of conducting the Government became better understood, and a restraint, however trifling, was imposed upon the Royal Pleasure, the highest responsibility was thrown upon the Officer who had the custody of the Great Seal, the "Clavis Regni," as it is happily called by Lord Coke[2], without which no measure of any consequence could be carried into effect. In England this duty has always been performed by the King's Chancellor, who is consequently the highest Civil Officer in the Kingdom, or by the Keeper of the Great Seal. Though a Seal was necessary to give validity even to the most trifling of the King's written commands, it was long before much importance was attached to the Privy Seal, or to the Royal Signet, or to those other small Seals, which were occasionally affixed to the King's Letters and Warrants. Satisfied that the Royal Prerogative, in matters injurious to the property or liberties of the people,

[1] See Prynne's "Opening of the Great Seal," a tract printed by order of the House of Commons in 1643, 4to. p. 16. There is also a tract on the King's Seals, entitled, "Jus Sigilli, or the Law of England "touching the four principal Seals," 24mo. 1673; but it contains little that is not in Coke's Institutes, and that little is of no value. A curious allusion to the "Great Seal" of the Earl of Northumberland will be found in the Proceedings of the Council, vol. i. pp. 214, 217.

[2] 2 Inst. p. 552.

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could only be exercised with the sanction of the highest Officer in the Realm, the attention of the Legislature was for some time directed only to the security and integrity of the Great Seal. The most ancient writers on the Law declared it to be high treason to counterfeit it[1]; and in the 28th Edw. I., it was enacted that no Writ relating to the Common Law should henceforth issue under the Privy Seal[2]; but notwithstanding this judicious provision, the Crown made several attempts to render the Privy Seal, and even the King's Signets, of equal authority to the Great Seal.

The Privy Seal was in the custody of the Clerk of the Privy Seal, who was sometimes called the Keeper, and afterwards Lord Privy Seal[3], who was a Member of the King's Council as early as the reign of Edward the Third, and who was then, if not before, a responsible Minister of the Crown. The Signet, and perhaps the other small Seals, which will be again alluded to, were always kept by the King's Secretary, or by the King himself.

Soon after the accession of King Richard the Second, the Commons complained that the due course of Law had been impeded by the King's Letters issued under the Privy Seal or secret Signet, to the great grievance of the people[4]; and

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[1] Bracton, lib. 2. Britton, cap. 8. Glanville, lib. xiv. c. 7. See also the "Close Rolls," vol. i. pp. xxxiii, 15, 32.

[2] Stat. 28 Edw. I. c. 2. See Coke's Second Institute, pp. 554, 556.

[3] 2 Inst. p. 554.

[4] Rot. Parl., 1 Ric. II. 1377, vol. iii. p. 23.

a Statute was passed in the 11th Ric. II., strictly prohibiting that practice.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

The illegality of interrupting the administration of Justice by Royal Warrants, and allowing the King's Signet or Privy Seal to usurp the functions of the Great Seal, did not, however, cease with the Statute of the 11th Ric. II. In 1389 the Commons exhibited a Bill in Parliament, containing a list of numerous grievances, which they prayed the King to remedy. One of their complaints was the practice of too readily granting Charters of Pardon in cases of treason, murder, and rape; and they requested that Pardons might not in future be granted at the solicitation of any one; that certain fines should be imposed on those Peers and Officers of the Household who applied for them; that "in every Bill indorsed, and sealed "under the Signet, and sent to the Keeper of the "Privy Seal, the name of him who applied for the "Charter should be inserted; and that no Charter "should pass the Chancellor without Warrant of "Privy Seal." The King consented to these propositions, but to the clause that "no Charter of "Pardon of treason or other felony should pass "the Chancellor without warrant of Privy Seal," he added, "except in cases where the Chan-"cellor may grant by his Office without speaking "to the King."[2] From these and other abuses

[1] Rot. Parl., 11 Ric. II. 1387, vol. iii. p. 247; and Stat. 11 Ric. II. c. 10.

[2] *Ibid.*, 13 Ric. II. vol. iii. p. 268.

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of the Royal authority such general discontent arose as led to the impeachment of Richard's Ministers; and the proceedings on the occasion form one of the earliest and most valuable precedents in English history, for insisting that the Royal Prerogative shall be exercised in a Constitutional and Lawful manner. Unhappily, however, for Richard, he did not discover from the fate of his Ministers that Parliament was resolved to trace the evil to its source. He was consequently driven from his Throne, leaving in the history of his reign an impressive lesson, which cannot be too often read by the student of the Constitutional History of this country.

There is one circumstance, which, though trifling in itself, tends to shew that Richard the Second attached the highest value to the instrument by which he was desirous of governing his Dominions; and that he considered it as the symbol of Regal authority. On declaring in full Parliament that he had resigned the Throne in favour of Henry Duke of Lancaster, "he took from his "finger his gold ring of the Signet of the Patents," and placing it on Henry's finger, as a token that his resignation was complete, said that he wished the fact to be made known to all the estates of the Realm.[1]

[1] "Et in signum suæ intentionis et voluntatis hujusmodi, annulum auri "de signeto suo Patentium de digito suo tunc ibidem extraxit et digito "dicti Ducis apposuit, desiderans hoc ipsum ut asseruit omnibus regni "statibus innotesci." Rot. Parl., 1 Hen. IV. 1399, vol. iii. p. 417.

Richard's illegal proceedings, in endeavouring to give to Warrants under his Signet, and to Letters under his Privy Seal, equal and even greater authority than to Letters Patent or Charters under his Great Seal, proved a salutary warning to his successor. THE GREAT SEAL.

It was among the Petitions of the Commons, in the Parliament which recognized Henry the Fourth as King, that all releases and pardons granted by Richard the Second, prejudicial to the interests of the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, might be annulled. The King replied, that all pardons and grants issued under the Great Seal should remain in force, but that all which had been granted under the *Signet*, or *other such small Seals*, or *verbally*, should be entirely repealed [1]; thus shewing respect only for such acts of the late King as had been *legally* carried into effect.[2]

[1] Rot. Parl., 1 Hen. IV. 1399, vol. iii. p. 442.

[2] The following letter from the Clerk of the Crown to the Chancellor, in the 1st Hen. IV. 1400, also shews the importance which was then attached to the lawful use of the King's Seals.

" Tresrevent ſr & mon ſhonore ſr, je me recomank a vous " en tant come je puis. Dautre part voilletz savoir q̃ ñre " ſsredoute ſr le Roy est ensy enforme, loiez soit Dieu, qil ne " voet ensealer ovesq̃ le Seal qil ad en sa garde nulle chose q̃ touche " la Cõe leys, mes il m'ad comaunde de rescevr les geñalx attornes " de toutz ceux q̃ irrount ovesq̃ luy en Escoce, sicome il vous ad " ſtifie par son ire desouz soū signet come je seu enforme. Par " quoy voilletz savoir q̃ jay resceu les geñalx attornes de Robert " Lytton, William Brokesby, John Swell, esquiers, sicome par une " bille enclose deins ycestes pluys pleynment poet apparoir, & pr " tant vo humblement supplie q̃ vo voilletz comaunder q̃ les ditz

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A still more remarkable instance of Henry the Fourth's adherence to Constitutional principles, and which is, perhaps, the first Parliamentary record of the responsibility of Ministers of the Crown, occurred a few years afterwards. In May 1406, the King, having taken into his consideration the numerous claims upon his time and attention, in the affairs of the Kingdom, appointed three Bishops, six temporal Peers, the Chancellor, the Treasurer, the Keeper of the Privy Seal, the Steward and Chamberlain of his Household, and three other persons, Members of his Privy Council; and commanded them to exert themselves as much as possible in promoting the welfare, and in maintaining the Laws and Statutes, of the Realm. The King then directed that all Bills indorsed by the Chamberlain, and Letters under the Signet addressed to the Chancellor, Treasurer, and Keeper of the Privy Seal, should thenceforward be indorsed by, or be written with the advice of, the Council. The Chancellor, Treasurer, and Keeper of the Privy Seal, and other Officers were not

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" gen͡alx attornes soient faitz en man͡e accustume. Aut͡s ne vo⁹ say
" escrire a p͡sent, mes q̃ le benoit Trinite vo⁹ ottrois bon vie ꝛ
" sauncte de corps, ꝛ longe a durer. Escript a Pontfreyt, le
" xxiij. jo^r de Juyn, en a foul hast.

" Tout le v̄re s͡vant,
" JAMES BILLYNGFORD."

" A t͡srev͡ent ſ^r ꝛ soū t͡shono^re ſ^r
' Sire Joh̄n Scarle Chaunceller Dengle͡tre."

Ex orig. in Turr. London.

to grant any Charters of Pardon, or Collations to Benefices except with the advice of the Council; and for the greater security and independence of its Members, the important condition was added, that they might resign whenever they found themselves unable to perform their duties with advantage to the King's service, without their retirement exciting his displeasure.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

Besides the Great Seal, the Privy Seal, and the Signet, King Henry the Fifth frequently used another Seal, called "the Signet of the Eagle," on which an Eagle with two heads was engraved. The earliest notice of that Seal, which was derived from the honor of the Eagle in Sussex, a part of the Duchy of Lancaster[2], is in 1415, when it was affixed to a Codicil to the King's Will.[3] A Signet was also occasionally used by King Edward the Third, called the "Signet of the Griffon"[4]; and these were, probably, the "other small Seals" alluded to by Henry the Fourth in 1399.[5]

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. iii. p. 572. Lord Lovell, who was appointed a member of the Council on that occasion, prayed to be, and was, excused from serving, because he had certain suits pending in the Courts of Law, which, he said, would prevent his performing his duty "honestement." *Ibid.* p. 573.

[2] Proceedings of the Privy Council, vol. v. p. 60; and Bishop Beckington's Journal, 8vo, 1828, pp. 113, 129, 130, where the Signet of the Eagle is engraved.

[3] Fœdera, vol. ix. p. 299. [4] *Ibid.* vol. v. pp. 106, 236.

[5] p. cxlv, *antea*. The following Petition to Parliament in the 4 Hen. VI., relating to the Seals of Henry the Fourth, is curious:

"A toutz les Seigñrs espirituelx & tempelx en cest p̃sent Par-
"lement esteauntz Supplie humblement v̄re simple & po v̄e

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The Enrolment on the Public Records, or, to use a more familiar expression, the Registration of the written Acts of the Sovereign, commences with the reign of King John. As all the most solemn and important of those Acts were passed under the King's Great Seal, the History of the Great Seal is contemporaneous with the record of the documents to which it was affixed; and, for many centuries, the public muniments present numerous notices of its delivery and custody. Whilst, comparatively speaking, little regard has been shewn, as a matter of record, to the movements of the King, except when he quitted

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" oratrice Emote qe fuist la fēme Joħn Esmond, orfeṽe de Lon-
" dres, qe come au dit Joħn sont duez certeins sōmes de moneye,
" pur la facion ꝛ mutacion div̄ses Sealx del ꝯs noble Roy Henry
" Quarte, qe Dieu assoille, aiel ñre dit s̄r le Roy q'or est, qe
" Dieu garde, par son comandement demesne en sa chambre;
" c'est assavoir, pur la facion d'un grant piere Sealx d'or l. ł̄i.
" Item pur l'amendement ꝛ mutacion des none dez Grant Sealx
" patents d'argent, c. s̄. Item, pur la faisure d'un Prive Seal d'or,
" ove un cheine ꝛ ridell' de longure deux vergez x. ł̄i. Item, pur
" l'amendement ꝛ mutacion trois peire Sealx patents d'argent; c'est
" assavoir, un pur le Bank le Roy, l'aut' pur le Cōe Bank, ꝛ le
" tierce pur l'Escheker du Roy, iiii. ł̄i. Item pur l'amendement
" ꝛ mutacion deux Sealx pur Caleis, ꝛ un pur Guynes, vi. ł̄i.
" Item, pur la faisure d'un Signet d'or pur le Secretaire, xiii. s̄.
" iiii. đ." The Petitioner concluded by praying for payment of the sums due to her. Rot. Parl., vol. iv. p. 312 a.

Among the effects of Henry the Fifth were four gold Signets, some of which were ornamented with precious stones; but these were probably rings with seals engraved with devices, and not the Signet used for Warrants and Letters by his Secretary. Rot. Parl., 2 Hen. VI. vol. iv. p. 215.

the Realm, and whilst none has ever been paid to custody of the Crown, even though it be the peculiar emblem of Sovereignty, and is, metaphorically, the representative of Monarchical authority, the Great Seal has very rarely been placed by the King in the hands of his Chancellor, or in those of any other person, even for a single day, without the fact being recorded. THE GREAT SEAL.

Although the materials for writing a History of the Great Seal are abundant and authentic, there are many curious particulars respecting it which have not been collected; much less have the deductions been drawn from them, in illustration of Constitutional questions, of which they are susceptible. This circumstance is in itself remarkable; but it becomes still more extraordinary when it is remembered that the functions of the Great Seal, and of its Keepers, have been treated of by Coke and Selden; and that the indefatigable Prynne has omitted to notice many of the facts alluded to, although his learned tract on the subject was thought worthy of being printed by order of the House of Commons.

The following observations will, therefore, it is hoped, in some degree at least, supply this deficiency in Legal literature.

The Great Seal has always been spoken of, as if it were of that integral and individual nature that it did not admit of a co-existent instrument capable of performing its functions; as if it were inseparable from the person of the King, or of his

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Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or other persons entrusted with it; and as if its name had never been given to any other of the King's Seals. It has also been supposed that the Great Seal could not be used except by the hands of the Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Commissioners, so as to ensure a Ministerial responsibility that it would not be affixed to any instrument of an illegal or unconstitutional description.

From the following facts, it is, however, unquestionable, that the Great Seal has neither always accompanied the King when he went out of the Realm, nor been left in the possession of the Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Commissioners during his absence; that it has occasionally been taken with the King or left in his Treasury, and that *another* Seal was created for the affairs of the Country, whilst the original Great Seal was taken abroad, or its use suspended, in consequence of the King's absence; that in the reign of Edward the Third, this temporary Seal also bore the name of the "Great Seal;" that in the time of Henry the Sixth there were no less than *three* Seals which were so designated; that on many occasions the Great Seal was taken from the Chancellor by the King, and affixed to instruments which, it is presumed, that Officer had refused to seal, the Seal being restored to him as soon as such instruments were executed; and, that as well in reference to these facts as to others, many erroneous opinions have prevailed in relation to the Great Seal, tending, in various

ways, to shew the extreme absurdity of making ancient usages the standard of propriety and right in relation to the wishes, feelings, and necessities of the present age. THE GREAT SEAL.

Except notices of the delivery of the Great Seal to the Chancellor in the reign of King John[1], and the statement of the King in 1213, that he had sealed his Letter to the Archdeacon of Durham, and another person, (directing them, in what manner to dispose of his hounds,) with his Private Seal, because his Great Seal was not with him[2], the earliest Record respecting it, which has been printed, is in the 3rd of Henry the Third. It was then provided by the Common Council of the Realm, that no Charter or Letters Patent of confirmation, alienation, sale, or grant, or of any thing granted in perpetuity, should be sealed with the King's Great Seal until he became of age; and that if any such were sealed with that Seal they should be void; from which time, according to the words of the Record, that "King's Seal began to run."[3] John. Henry III.

[1] In October, 7 John, 1205, the King granted his Chancery, with all its appurtenances, to Walter de Grai, for the sum of 5,000 marks, to hold the same so long as he might live. (Rot. Fine, 7 John, m. 10 d Cartæ Antiquæ in Turr. London. B. B. Rot. 22.) In the 31st Hen. I. Geoffrey, the King's Chancellor, paid a fine of £3,006 13*s.* 4*d.* for the Seal. Rot. Pipe, eod. ann.

[2] Rot. Claus., 15 John. Baker's History of Northamptonshire, vol. ii p. 82.

[3] "Primæ Literæ Novi Sigilli Domini Regis de Cartis vel Literis "Patentibus non faciendis. Et hic incepit Sigillum Domini Regis "currere." Rot. Pat. 3 Hen. III. m. 6; Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 68.

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In June, 16 Hen. III. 1232, the King granted to "Ralph Bishop of Chichester, Chancellor, the "Chancery of England during the whole term of "his life, with all the appurtenances, liberties, and "free customs to the aforesaid Chancery pertaining;" and by another Charter of the same date, "the custody of our Seal during the whole term "of his life, with all appurtenances, liberties, and "customs to the aforesaid custody pertaining, so "that he may bear and keep the said Seal in his "own person so long as he will, or by any discreet, "sufficient, and fit Deputy, whom he may appoint, "which said Deputy shall do fealty to us for his "faithful service, faithfully keeping our Seal in its "place, before he receive the custody of the said "Seal; and if it happen that the same Deputy die, "or change his life, or for reasonable cause be "removed by us or by the said Chancellor, or if "the said Deputy decline longer to bear the said "Seal, the said Chancellor shall substitute, in the "place of such Deputy, another discreet, sufficient, "and fit person, so that he do fealty to us for his "faithful service, faithfully keeping the aforesaid "Seal in its place, before he undertake the cus-"tody of the aforesaid Seal, as is aforesaid."[1] One of the grievances of which the Peers and other Magnates complained, in a Council held at London in 1244, was that, by default of the Chancellor, Writs had been granted contrary to justice.

[1] Rot. Claus., 16 Hen. III.

They, therefore, requested that such grants should be entirely revoked; and that if, upon any occasion, the King should take his Seal away from the Chancellor, whatever might be sealed with it should be considered void and of none effect.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

Entries occur on the Patent Rolls of the delivery of the King's Seal to a Custos or Keeper in the 31st, 32nd, and 33rd of Henry the Third[2]; and in August, in the 37th year of that reign, when the King went into Gascony, he appointed the Queen to be Guardian of the Realm, with the assistance of the Earl of Cornwall, on which occasion the Great Seal was placed in her custody under the King's Privy Seal, and the Seals of the said Earl and others of the Council, with this proviso, that if any act injurious to the rights of the Crown should be sealed with any other Seal, during the King's absence, it should be utterly void.[3] The Seal of the Exchequer was ordered to be substituted for the Great Seal until the King's return.[4] On the 5th of January, in the 39th Hen. III. 1255, the King's Seal was restored to

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[1] Matthew Paris, p. 432.

[2] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 68; Rot. Pat., 31 Hen. III. m. 2; 33 Hen. III. m. 3. The Seal is called in those Records "Sigillum nostrum."

[3] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. pp. 68, 69; Rot. Pat., 37 Hen. III. m. 6. and m. 8.

[4] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 69; Rot. Pat., 37 Hen. III. m. 5.

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him, and he delivered it to Henry de Wengham to keep and use [1]; and on the 14th of the same month, the Seal which the King had used in Gascony was deposited in the Treasury.[2] Several other memoranda occur of the transfer of the Great Seal to various Chancellors or Custodes during Henry the Third's reign; but only one of them is deserving of attention. In May, in the 49th Hen. III. 1265, the Chancellor surrendered the King's Seal, in his presence, to the Keeper of the Wardrobe, who was to retain it until the Chancellor's return, and he was to use it in the following manner: It was to be secured in a purse under the Seals of one, two, or three other persons. When it was taken out, the Custos was to seal Writs of Course in the presence of the person under whose Seal it was laid up, or in his absence, if he did not choose to attend; but Writs of Precept were only to be sealed in the presence, and with the assent of such person; and when Writs either of Course or Precept were sealed, the King's Seal was to be again sealed up, under the Seal of one of the said three persons, and replaced in the Wardrobe until the Chancellor returned.[3]

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1 Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 70; Rot. Pat., 39 Hen. III. m. 5.

2 Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 70; Memor., 39 Hen. III. rot. 6 b; Hilar. Communia, *Ibid.*

3 Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 71; Rot. Pat., 49 Hen. III. m. 16.

THE GREAT SEAL. Edward I.

It also appears to have been then the custom for the Chancellor to place the Seal in other hands whenever he went out of the Kingdom, and even when he went to any place very distant from the metropolis. Instances of this practice took place in the 6th and 11th of Edward the First [1]; but when that Sovereign left the Realm, he, like his immediate predecessor and successors, either took the Great Seal with him, or more usually caused it to be deposited in the Treasury or Wardrobe until his return; and another Seal was made for sealing Judicial instruments in his absence. Thus, in March, 26 Edw. I. 1298, the Chancellor sent the Seal [2] which had been used in England whilst the King was in Flanders, (during which time his son Edward had tested all Writs under the said Seal,) to be kept in the Treasury.[3] In August 1302, the Great Seal was again entrusted to a Custos, to be kept under the Seals of three other persons until a Chancellor was appointed, which did not happen until the 30th of September; but on the Chancellor's going abroad, in November following, he restored the Great Seal to the King, when it was placed in the hands of

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[1] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. p. 71.

[2] Madox (vol. i. p. 71) erroneously calls that Seal the "*Great* Seal," which is not only at variance with the Record, wherein it is merely called "Sigillum Domini Regis quo utebatur in regno Angliæ dum Rex erat "in partibus Flandriæ," &c., but it is proved not to have been the Great Seal by a Record of the reign of Edward II. *Vide* p. clxii, *postea*.

[3] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. pp. 71, 72; Hil. Communia, 25 & 26 Edw. I. rot. 57 a.

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a Custos, as before.[1] In the 35th Edw. I., in consequence of the death of the Chancellor, a Writ of Privy Seal was sent from Carlisle, to the Barons and Treasurer of the Exchequer, together with the Great Seal, commanding them to deliver the latter to the Bishop of London, and to receive his oath, the King having appointed him Chancellor.[2]

Edward II.

The notices of the Great Seal, during the reign of Edward the Second, are very numerous[3]; but those only will be referred to which throw light upon its history.

On the 21st of January 1308, the Bishop of Chichester, the Chancellor, delivered the Great Seal to the King at Dover, who gave it to William de Melton, to take with him in the Wardrobe to parts beyond the seas. The King then delivered to the said Chancellor *another* Seal, (which had been newly made at London,) for the government of the Realm whilst the King should be abroad.[4] On the 7th of February in the same year, Edward returned from Boulogne, where he had married Isabella of France, and landed at Dover; and because his Great Seal, which had been taken with him beyond the sea, was then

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[1] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. pp. 72, 73; Rot. Claus., 30 Edw. I. m. 8 d. m. 6 d. m. 5 d.

[2] Madox's History of the Exchequer, vol. i. pp. 73, 74; Pas. Communia, 35 Edw. I. rot. 46 a.

[3] All the Records relating to the Great Seal in the reign of Edward the Second are printed in the Appendix to the Parliamentary Writs.

[4] Rot. Claus., 1 Edw. II. m. 11; Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 9.

in the custody of the Keeper of the Wardrobe, who was not able to reach Dover on the day the King landed, no Writs were sealed until the following Friday, the 9th of February, when the Chancellor restored to the King at Dover the Seal which had been used in England whilst his Majesty was abroad, and which he consigned to the care of William de Melton, Comptroller of the Wardrobe; and immediately afterwards the King, with his own hand, delivered the original Great Seal to the Chancellor.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

On the 15th of March in the same year, William de Melton, the King's Secretary, placed in the hands of the Remembrancer of the Exchequer at Westminster the King's Small Seal[2], which Peter de Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, had used as Custos of the Realm, for sealing Writs whilst the King was at Boulogne; and the Remembrancer immediately delivered the said Seal to two of the Clerks of the Treasury, to be kept therein.[3]

The next record relating to the Great Seal is of some interest. Pursuant to the King's verbal commands, the Chancellor sent his Majesty at Langley, on the 9th of June 1308, the Great

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 9; Rot. Fin., 1 Edw. II. m. 9.

[2] "Parvum Sigillum Regis," evidently the Small Seal used instead of the Great Seal during the King's absence, which is so often mentioned; and not as the Record is docketed, and as the Editor of the Parliamentary Writs has rendered it, "the Privy Seal."

[3] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 11; Rot. Claus., 1 Edw. II. m. 7 d.

THE GREAT SEAL. Seal by the Keeper of the Rolls of Chancery, who returned it to the Chancellor on the next day. On the 15th of the same month, at the New Temple, London, the Bishop elect of Winchester, the Treasurer, ordered the Chancellor (pursuant, as he said, to the verbal commands which he had received from the King,) to send the Great Seal to Windsor by Adam de Osgodby, which was accordingly done; and it remained with the King until the 20th of the same month, when it was again restored to the Chancellor at London.[1] It thus appears that the King was accustomed to send for, and to use the Great Seal, in the absence of the Chancellor or Keeper, and that he retained it in his own hands, on this occasion, so long as five days. These memoranda are supposed to have been "intended as evidence that the Chan- "cellor was not to be considered as responsible for "Gavêston's patent of the Lieutenancy of Ireland, "which was sealed at the express command of the "King on the 16th of June, by which the Chan- "cellor is said to have evaded the sentence which "had been pronounced in Parliament"[2]; and it might afford much curious information if every Charter and Patent which has been passed, whilst the Great Seal was in the King's own hands, and by his special commands, were examined.

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 14; Rot. Claus., 1 Edw. II. m. 3 d.

[2] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii, div. i. app. p. 18. n.

THE GREAT SEAL.

In December 1311, Osgodby, and two other persons, were commanded by Letters under the Privy Seal, to convey the King's Seal to the King at Windsor Park on the following day, which they accordingly did; and on the 20th of January 1312, they were directed by the King to perform daily, in the Church of our Lady without the Castle of York, that which appertained to the office of Chancellor.[1] On the 4th of May following, the Great Seal was conveyed by the Steward of the Household, from Newcastle upon Tyne, to the King at Tynemouth; and it was again delivered to Osgodby, at York, on the 17th of the same month.[2] On the 5th of October, the Bishop of Worcester was directed to receive and use the Great Seal, causing an entry of such receipt to be made on the Rolls of Chancery. The Seal was, accordingly, delivered to him at Westminster on the day following[3]; and on the 17th of April 1313, the Bishop of Worcester went from Windsor on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, taking with him the Great Seal, under the seals of the Clerks in Chancery.[4] The King having sailed from Dover for France on the 23rd of May 1313, he left the

[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 43; Rot. Claus., 5 Edw. II. m. 16 d.

[2] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 50; Rot. Claus., 5 Edw. II. m. 5 d.

[3] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 56; Rot. Claus., 6 Edw. II. m. 26 d.

[4] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 61; Rot. Claus., 6 Edw. II. m. 5 d.

THE GREAT SEAL. Great Seal in the custody of the Bishop of Worcester, under the Seals of the three Clerks in cery.[1]

Edward returned to England on the 16th of July following[2], and in December 1313, went on a pilgrimage to Boulogne, and was out of the Realm for eight days, during which time the Great Seal remained in the custody of the Archbishop elect of Canterbury, who had charge of it previously, when Bishop of Worcester.[3]

On the 1st of April 1314, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had the custody of the Great Seal, under the Seals of Osgodby and two other Clerks in Chancery, delivered it to them, in the King's presence, in the Abbey at St. Alban's, Edward being then on his route to Scotland, stating it was his Majesty's pleasure that the same should be deposited in a certain chamber in the Tower of London, under the Seals of three persons named, one of whom was to reside in that chamber until the King otherwise commanded; and they were conjointly directed to perform faithfully the business of the said Seal. On the 4th of that month, the Great Seal was conveyed to London by William de Ayremynne, and after Writs had been sealed with it, it was delivered,

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1 Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 63; Rot. Claus., 6 Edw. II. m. 4 d.

2 Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 64; Rot. Claus., 7 Edw. II. m. 28 d.

3 Parliamentary Writs. vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 71.

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under the seals of the said three persons, to the Archbishop, who, on the following day, went to his manor of Otford.[1]

On the 8th of May 1317, the Chancellor being about to proceed to Canterbury, the King, by writ of Privy Seal, ordered that during his absence from London he should place the Chancery and the Great Seal in the custody of two persons named Ayremynne and Bardelby. The Seal was, consequently, delivered to them on the 11th, and was re-delivered by them to the Chancellor on his return to London, on the 18th of the same month.[2] The Chancellor being about to make a pilgrimage to Canterbury, he was directed, on the 6th of February 1318, by writ of Privy Seal, to leave "Our Seal" in the custody of Master Henry de Clif, under the Seals of three persons, all, or two of whom were to perform the duties of the office of Chancellor until his return. The Seal was restored to the Chancellor on his arrival in London on the 19th of the same month.[3]

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 74.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 112; Rot. Claus., 10 Edw. II. m. 8 d.

[3] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 121; Rot. Claus., 11 Edw. II. m. 11 d. Instances of the Chancellor leaving the Great Seal in the custody of others when going to a distant part of the Kingdom also occurred on the 29th of March, 11 Edw. II. 1318; on the 13th of July in the same year; on the 1st of December, 13 Edw. II. 1319; on the 8th of August, 14 Edw. II. 1320; on the 2nd of September, 16 Edw. II. 1322; on the 30th of December in the same year; and on the 16th of November, 18 Edw. II. 1324. *Vide* Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. pp. 122-124, 144, 150, 217, 224, 269.

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A very remarkable proceeding occurred in October 1319. The King, being then at York, commanded John de Hothum Bishop of Ely, and Chancellor, not to execute any mandate under the Great Seal in consequence of the messages of any person, of whatever rank, who might come to him in his Majesty's name, unless he had verbally, or by Letters under the Privy Seal, declared his pleasure to him thereupon.[1] On the 23rd of January 1320, the Chancellor delivered the Great Seal to the King, at York, who with his own hands placed it at the head of his bed, but subsequently entrusted it to three Clerks in Chancery; and on the following day, the Bishop of Norwich, who had been appointed Chancellor in full Parliament[2], received it from the King.[3]

The next records on the subject particularly deserve attention. On the 4th of June, 13 Edw. II. 1320, the King being in his green chamber in his palace of Westminster, in the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Norwich, Chancellor, and other personages, caused to be brought before him two small Seals, the one of the time of King Edward his father, which was used in England whilst that monarch was in Flanders[4],

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 143; Rot. Claus., 13 Edw. II. m. 16 d.

[2] His appointment is not noticed on the Rolls of Parliament.

[3] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 144; Rot. Claus., 13 Ed. II. m. 9 d.

[4] *Vide* p. clv, *antea.*

and the other, which was used in England when he (Edward the Second) was lately in France; and the King caused the said small Seal of the time of his father to be broken in his presence, and gave the pieces of silver to the Bishop of Norwich, as the fee of the Chancellor; and the other small Seal, of his own time, he deposited in a purse under the Chancellor's seal. At the same time, the King being about to proceed into France to do homage for the Duchy of Aquitaine, commanded that his *Great* Seal should remain in some secure place, whilst he continued abroad, and that in the meantime the small Seal should suffice for the government of the Realm. Edward commenced his journey towards the coast on the following day; and on the 9th of the same month, the Chancellor, who was about to accompany him, went to the residence of the Bishop of Exeter, the Treasurer, and there, after sealing Writs, placed the Great Seal in a purse, and sealed it with his own Seal, to be conveyed to the King forthwith. He afterwards delivered the *small* Seal, sealed with his own Seal, to three Clerks of the Chancery; and it was agreed that so long as the King was in England, all Writs should issue under his teste, and during his absence, under the teste of Aymer de Valence Earl of Pembroke, as Custos of the Kingdom. The King afterwards sent a Writ of Privy Seal to the Keepers of the small Seal, informing them that he had sailed on the 19th of June, and directing, that, until his return, Writs

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should be issued under the teste of the Custos of the Realm.[1]

On the 22nd of July, 14 Edw. II. 1320, a Writ of Privy Seal was addressed to the Keepers of "Our Seal," informing them that the King had arrived at Dover on that day, and commanding them no longer to use the said small Seal. It was, accordingly, delivered by them to the Bishop of Norwich, the Chancellor, on the next day; and their Seals being taken off, he sealed up the purse in which it was contained, and delivered it to the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, to be kept in the Treasury.[2] On the 24th of July 1321, Ayremynne, Keeper of the Rolls of Chancery, delivered the Great Seal to the King himself at Westminster, under the Seals of the three Clerks of the Chancery; whereupon the King received the Great Seal with his own hands, and delivered it to Richard Camel, to be conveyed to the Queen, in the presence of the said William, commanding her to keep the same in her custody; and that every day, when Ayremynne should repair to her to open the Great Seal for the purpose of sealing, she should deliver it to him, and after the sealing, receive it again. On the 24th of the following month, the King, being in the Tower of London, and the said Seal being then deposited in the Wardrobe, he

[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 146; Rot. Claus., 13 Edw. II. m. 4 d.

[2] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 150; Rot. Claus., 14 Edw. II. m. 26 d.

commanded it to be delivered into Ayremynne's custody. It was, consequently, entrusted to him, and remained in his charge, under the Seals of the two other Clerks, until the 23rd of October, when, by the King's command, he delivered it to the Queen, at Rochester, by whom it was given to the Lady Elizabeth de Montibus, to be enclosed in a casket; and from that day Ayremynne fetched the Great Seal from the Queen whenever he wanted it for sealing, and afterwards returned it to her, to be kept under his own Seals, and the Seals of the said Clerks. The Great Seal was subsequently entrusted by the King, in whose possession it was on the 15th of November, to various persons; but it was restored to his Majesty on the 14th of December, and remained in his hands until the 24th of January 1322, on which day he re-delivered it, at Shrewsbury, to Ayremynne, by whom it was retained until the 3rd of March, when it was given back to the King.[1] By Writ of Privy Seal, tested on the 4th of June 1323, Ayremynne, and the two other Clerks in Chancery, were commanded to receive the Great Seal from the Bishop of Norwich, the Chancellor, in consequence of the King having been informed of the Bishop's illness; and they were directed to keep it in the same manner as they had previously done.[2] On the 8th of August,

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 163; Rot. Claus., 15 Edw. II. m. 35 d.

[2] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 228; Rot. Claus., 16 Edw. II. m. 6 d.

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18 Edw. II. 1324, Robert de Baldok, Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Chancellor, having obtained the King's permission to return home for a time, for his recreation, delivered the Great Seal to the King, in Windsor forest, where his Majesty then was for the purpose of hunting; and Edward, with his own hand, on the evening of the same day delivered the Great Seal to Ayremynne, who was then the Keeper of the Privy Seal, to perform the duties of Chancellor; and it was to be kept under the seals of some of the Clerks of the Chancery.[1]

The following is, however, the most important of the records relating to the Great Seal in the reign of Edward the Second. On the 26th of October 1326, Edward having gone away with Hugh le Despenser the younger, and other notorious enemies of Queen Isabel, and of Edward Duke of Acquitaine[2], the King's eldest son, and having left the realm without any government, the Archbishop of Dublin and other Prelates, Earls, Barons, and Knights, assembled at Bristol, and chose Prince Edward to be "Custos" of the Kingdom whilst his father continued absent. On the same day the Duke assumed the Government, and issued the necessary legal proceedings under his Privy Seal, which was then in the keeping of Robert de Wyvill his Clerk, "because he had no other Seal for the purpose."

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[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. app. p. 260; Rot. Claus., 28 Edw. II. m. 38 d.

[2] Edward the Third never bore the title of Prince of Wales.

On the 20th of November, the King having returned, the Bishop of Hereford was sent to him on behalf of the Queen, of her son the Duke of Acquitaine, and of the Prelates and "Proceres," who were then at Hereford, to request that he would command those things to be done with the Great Seal, then in his possession, which were necessary for the conservation of the peace, and the due administration of justice. To this message the King, who was at Monmouth, replied, that he would send his Great Seal to his consort and son, that they might cause it to be opened, it being then under his Privy Seal, and therewith do, not only all acts necessary for the preservation of the peace and the administration of justice, but also all matters of grace. The Great Seal was accordingly sent to the Queen and the Duke, at Cirencester, and was by them delivered, on the 30th of November, to the Bishop of Norwich, in whose custody it remained until the 4th of December, on which day he returned it to the Queen and the Duke; and the Seal was opened from time to time for the despatch of business, and after being used was again sealed up under the Bishop's seal, and returned to them.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

The preceding facts prove that it was by no means the universal practice for the Great Seal to remain near the King's own person; but a change

[1] Parliamentary Writs, vol. ii. div. ii. part i. p. 349; Rot. Claus. 20 Edw. II. m. 3 d.

THE GREAT SEAL. Edward III.

evidently took place, in this respect, in the reign of Edward the Third. It was then the custom for the Great Seal to accompany the King wherever he went, even when he quitted England, whether he was, or was not, attended by his Chancellor, instead of its being deposited, as formerly, in the Treasury until his return. But the usage was necessarily continued of having another Seal, which was for the time also called a "*Great* Seal," for sealing judicial instruments during his Majesty's absence, which was committed to the Chancellor's custody, instead of the original Great Seal. On the King's return, however, the Great Seal was restored to the Chancellor, and the duplicate was carefully deposited in the Treasury, until a similar occasion for it should arise. Thus, the Great Seal seems, in the fourteenth century, to have been considered inseparable from the person of the Sovereign, which, though opposed to more ancient usage, nevertheless agrees with the statement of Lord Coke, that "as the Great Seal is "'Clavis Regni,' it is proper that the King should "always have the Key of his Kingdom about "him."[1]

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[1] Stat. 28 Edw. I. cap. v. "Et dauter part le Roy voit que le "Chauncellor et les Justices de son bank luy suivent," &c.; upon which Lord Coke remarks, "The true cause wherefore the Chancellor "followed the King's court was, that the Great Seal is *Clavis Regni*, "and in the custody of the Chancellor, and meet it was that the King "should always have the Key of his Kingdom about him," &c. Second Institute, pp. *551*, *552*.

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On the 10th of July, in the 12th Edw. III. 1338, a Writ was issued to the Sheriff of Kent, stating, that as the King was going out of the Realm, and would take his Great Seal with him, he had appointed another Seal to be used in this country whilst he remained abroad; and that the impression of such Seal might be generally known, the Sheriff was commanded to cause it to be exhibited and declared in full County court.[1]

In February 1340, the Sheriff of Kent received a similar command to exhibit impressions of the new Great Seal and Privy Seal, which were then made in consequence of Edward's having assumed the title of King of France.[2] On the 1st of March following, the King delivered to the Keeper of the Rolls (the Chancellorship being vacant) *a* Great Seal then newly made for the government of his Realm, which he had brought with him from abroad, and which was to be kept by that person, to do and expedite therewith those things which should be required in that behalf for the King and his people[3]; and on the same day the Keeper of the Rolls surrendered to the King *another* "Great "Seal" appointed for the rule of the Realm of England during the King's absence abroad, which had been in his custody, and which his Majesty gave to the Keeper of the Privy Seal, to be kept in the Wardrobe.[3]

Edward the Third again went to France in

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[1] Fœdera, vol. v. p. 63. [2] *Ibid.* p. 169. [3] *Ibid.* p. 171.

THE GREAT SEAL. July 1345, and on the 3rd of that month, being at Sandwich ready to embark, the Chancellor came there, and delivered to him, in the chamber of Queen Philippa, *a* Great Seal which he had in his custody for the government of the Realm of England; and the King having received it, delivered to the Chancellor *another* Seal for the government of the said Realm whilst his Majesty remained abroad, which the Chancellor took with him to London; and on the ensuing Wednesday he caused divers Charters, Letters Patent, and Writs to be sealed therewith at Westminster.[1]

The next notice of the Great Seal was in July 1346, on the 2nd of which month the Chancellor, by command of the King, who was then in the Isle of Wight, and about to sail for France, delivered the Great Seal appointed for the government of England, whilst the King was within the Realm, to the Keeper of the Privy Seal, in the church of Fareham, near Porchester; and the Chancellor immediately received from the Keeper of the Privy Seal *one other*, the King's Great Seal, appointed for the rule of the said Realm whilst the King was abroad.[2] The Keeper of the Privy Seal appears to have merely received the Great Seal on this occasion for the purpose of conveying it to the King.

Immediately before Edward sailed for France, in October 1359, the Chancellor sent David de

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[1] Fœdera, vol. v. p. 472. [2] *Ibid.* p. 518.

Wollore, the Keeper of the Rolls, to the King in the Isle of Thanet, with *the* Great Seal, and "a certain small Seal for Thomas the King's "son, which he should use as Custos of Eng- "land whilst the King was out of the Realm, "which the said Chancellor, in his dwelling at "Southwark, delivered to the said David, to be "conveyed to the King, who was at Sandwich "on his passage towards France. Which Seals, "being so received by the King from the said "David, he delivered the aforesaid Great Seal to "John de Wynewyk, Keeper of his Privy Seal, "to be kept; and the other small Seal to John de "Rokyngham, Clerk, then appointed by the King "to bear the said Seal. And by his Writ of Privy "Seal he commanded the Chancellor that he "should receive from the King's Treasurer and "Chamberlains *one other* Great Seal appointed "for the office of Chancellor during the King's "absence, being in the King's Treasury, and "that he should seal therewith the Charters, "Letters Patent, and Writs close, under the King's "testimony whilst he should be in the Realm, and "under the testimony of the said Custos after the "King's embarkation; which the Chancellor, on "Monday the 14th day of October, received from "the Treasurer and Chamberlains, in a bag sealed "with the seal of Master John de Offord, formerly "the King's Chancellor; and taking the bag with "him to the marble table in Westminster Hall, "there, in the presence of the aforesaid David,

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"Keeper of the Rolls of the King's Chancery, and "of others, caused the same to be opened, and "Charters, Letters Patent, and Writs to be sealed "therewith; and such sealing having been made, "he caused the said Seal to be replaced in the said "bag, and to be conveyed to his dwelling. And "afterwards, on the feasts of Saint Simon and Jude, "to wit, the 28th day of the same month of "October, the King, between daybreak and sun-"rise, having embarked at the port of Sandwich, "with other lords and nobles then being with him, "in a ship called the Philip of Dartmouth, set sail "from thence towards the town of Calais, and "made the port of the same town on the same "day about the hour of vespers."[1]

Edward returned to England on the 18th of May 1360; and having arrived at Westminster the next day, he summoned the Chancellor and Treasurer to his presence. He then delivered to the Chancellor his Great Seal appointed for the rule of England, which he had caused to be conveyed with him to France, inclosed in a bag sealed with the Privy Seal; and on the following day the Chancellor delivered *the other* Great Seal, used for the sealing of Writs during the King's absence, to the Treasurer, to be deposited in the Treasury.[2]

The last record of the King's Seals in the reign of Edward the Third to which it is necessary to allude, refers to the Seals used in all his Courts

[1] Fœdera, vol. vi. p. 141.

[2] *Ibid.* p. 196.

after his resumption of the style of King of France in June 1369, and which were evidently the same Seals as had been used during the time he had before borne that title. After stating the reason for again adopting the title of King of France, the memorandum thus proceeds: — THE GREAT SEAL.

" Whereupon the now King of England and " France caused to be brought into the Chan- " cery all his Seals, as well for the rule of Eng- " land as for the places of either Bench, and of " the Exchequer, and for the office of Privy Seal, " on the circumscription whereof was engraven " EDWARDUS REX ANGLIE ET FRANCIE, *sive* FRANCIE " ET ANGLIE, being in the Treasury of the said " King, by William de Mulsho and John de " Newenham, Chamberlains of the Exchequer of " the said King of England and France, at West- " minster, on Monday the feast of St. Barnabas the " Apostle, to wit, the 11th of June in the present " year. Whereupon the venerable father, William " Bishop of Winchester, the Chancellor of the said " King, delivered *two* Great Seals, each of them " of two pieces, on one of which was engraven " REX ANGLIE ET FRANCIE, and on the other " REX FRANCIE ET ANGLIE, and one Seal of two " pieces, to John Knyvet, the Chief Justice of the " King's Bench, for the Writs of the same place; " and another Seal of two pieces to Robert de " Thorp, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, for " the Writs of the same place; and a certain Seal " of two pieces to Master William de Askeby,

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"Archdeacon of Northampton, Chancellor of the "King's Exchequer, to seal the Writs of the said "Exchequer; and one other Seal of one piece, "appointed for the office of Privy Seal, to Peter "de Lacy, Clerk of the Privy Seal. And he re-"delivered to the aforesaid Chamberlains that "great seal of two pieces, whereon is engraven "EDWARDUS REX ANGLIE DOMINUS HIBERNIE ET "AQUITANIE, and which, according to the aforesaid "Peace, was appointed for the rule of England; "and four other Seals for the Benches, the Ex-"chequer, and for the office of Privy Seal, with "the style REGIS ANGL' D'NI HIB'N' ET AQUITAN', "which, after the aforesaid Peace, had been "hitherto kept in the Treasury."[1]

Richard II.

No notice has been discovered of a duplicate Great Seal being used during the reigns of Richard the Second, Henry the Fourth, or Henry the Fifth; and the next time one is mentioned is in the early part of the fifteenth century. A fact connected with the Great Seal and the Chancellorship, which occurred in the reign of Richard the Second, is, however, sufficiently curious to be stated. The impetuous manner in which that Monarch acted towards his Ministers, whenever a sense of duty caused them to oppose his wishes, has been already mentioned.[2] Like his predecessors, he sometimes commanded the Great Seal

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1 Fœdera, vol. vi. p. 621.

2 Proceedings of the Council, vol. i. p. xv.; Rot. Parl. vol. iii. p. 420 b.

to be affixed to instruments while it was in his own keeping[1], thereby avoiding all remonstrance, and preventing all responsibility on the part of his Chancellor. Richard Lord Scrope of Bolton was appointed Chancellor for the second time in December 1381; but having resisted the King's desire to confer, upon some Royal favourites, the lands which, on the death of the Earl of March, had fallen to the Crown, Richard "became incensed "at Scrope's behaviour, and sent messenger after "messenger, commanding him forthwith to return "the Great Seal." Lord Scrope, however, declined to deliver it, except to the King himself[2]; and the Record of the surrender of it, in July 1382, corroborates this statement. It recites that on the 11th of July in that year, it being the King's pleasure that Lord Scrope should be discharged from the office of Chancellor, he sent John de Montague, Steward of his Household, to command that the Great Seal should be delivered to him forthwith. With this demand the Chancellor, "as in duty bound," complied; and he surrendered it to the King, who, with his own hands, received it from him. The King, however, not having then nominated the future Chancellor, entrusted his Seal to Commissioners, by whom it was used until the Saturday following, on which day it was delivered to the Bishop of London, who, at Bristol, had been previously appointed Chancellor.[3]

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[1] For an instance of this practice in 1381, see Fœdera, vol. vii. p. 336.

[2] Walsingham, p. 290.

[3] Fœdera, vol. vii. p. 362.

THE GREAT SEAL. Henry VI.

On the 28th of September 1422, about six weeks after the death of Henry the Fifth, the Bishop of Durham, then Chancellor, surrendered the Great Seal of *gold* into the hands of his infant Sovereign, at Windsor Castle, in the presence of the Duke of Gloucester, who delivered it in the King's name to Gaunsted, the Keeper of the Rolls, to convey to London. On the next day, several instruments were sealed with it by Gaunsted, who retained it until the 20th of November following, on which day he gave it to the Duke of Gloucester, in full Parliament. The Duke counter-sealed the purse in which it was contained, and gave it to a Clerk, to be deposited in the Treasury.[1]

Four days before this proceeding, namely, on the 16th of November, the Bishop of Durham was re-appointed Chancellor, by Letters Patent[2]; and it is remarkable that there is no record of his having ever resigned the Great Seal of *silver*, or of the Great Seal of *gold* having been again placed in his custody. A *new* Great Seal was made on that occasion, because the King's style in the inscriptions on the former Seals was not suited to the reigning Monarch. It was said, that "great peril might "ensue to the King if the said Seals were not "immediately altered;" and the Keepers of all the King's Seals were ordered to cause them to be altered forthwith.[3] This proceeding is

[1] pp. 343, 344, *postea*. [2] p. 345, *postea*.
[3] Rot. Parl., 1 Hen. VI. vol. iv. p. 171.

considered by Prynne as one of the two precedents, which he cites, establishing the right of Parliament to cause a new Great Seal to be made whenever the original was lost or wilfully withheld[1]; but there is little analogy between that proceeding and the case to which it is applied. THE GREAT SEAL.

The Bishop of Durham surrendered the Great Seal of *silver* on the 16th of July 1424, and it was immediately delivered to Beaufort Bishop of Winchester, who took the oath of Chancellor, and sealed various Charters with the Great Seal according to custom.[2] Cardinal Beaufort having resigned the Great Seal of *silver*, the Duke of Bedford brought it to Leicester Castle, on the 14th of March 1426, in a bag of white leather; and having sealed some Letters Patent, replaced it therein; and on the 16th of the same month conveyed it to the King, who delivered it to John Kemp, Bishop of London, the new Chancellor.[3] The Great Seal of *gold* seems to have remained in the King's Treasury from the time it was surrendered by the Bishop of Durham, in September 1422, until after the appointment of the Bishop of London; for on the 18th of March the Bishop of Bath and Wells, late Treasurer of England, pursuant to a Writ of Privy Seal directed to him, brought into Parliament the King's Great Seal of *gold;* and having given it to the Duke of Bedford, the King's commissioner, the Duke took

[1] The Opening of the Great Seal, p. 19.

[2] p. 344, *postea.*

[3] p. 346, *postea.*

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it out of the bag, publicly exhibited and replaced it, and then delivered it into the custody of the Bishop of London, the Chancellor.[1]

Cardinal Kemp was translated to the See of York in April 1426; and on the 25th of February 1432 he surrendered the two Great Seals, one of *gold* and the other of *silver*, to the King, who delivered them to John Stafford, Bishop of Bath.[2] In consequence of the Chancellor's departure from England, in April 1433, to assist at a negociation at Calais, the Great Seal of *silver* was placed in the custody of the Keeper of the Rolls, with power to use the same[3]; but returning on the 3rd of May, he restored it into the Chancellor's hands, who thus became the depositary of both.[4]

Stafford was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in May 1443, and surrendered the *two* Great Seals above mentioned on the 31st of January 1450, when the King delivered them to Cardinal Kemp, Archbishop of York, the new Chancellor, placing at the same time in his custody a leather bag, sealed with divers seals containing *another* of the King's Seals of silver, which had been kept in the Treasury.[5] Of this third Seal the purport is not known; but on Cardinal Kemp's death, in March 1454, "the King's *three Great Seals*, one of "*gold* and the other *two* of *silver*," were brought

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[1] Rot. Parl., vol. iv. p. 299.
[2] p. 349, *postea*.
[3] pp. 350-352, *postea*.
[4] p. 352, *postea*.
[5] pp. 353, 354, *postea*.

into Parliament, in a wooden chest, and delivered by the Duke of York, the Lieutenant of the Kingdom, to the newly appointed Chancellor, Richard Earl of Salisbury.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

The Earl of Salisbury surrendered the King's Great Seal of *silver*, with two other of the King's Great Seals, one of *gold* and the other of *silver*, on the 7th of March 1455; and his Majesty then placed the said *three* Seals in the custody of Thomas Bourchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, who immediately afterwards took the oath of Chancellor.[2] On the 11th of October 1456, the said *three* Seals, having been surrendered by Archbishop Bourchier, were delivered to Waynflete Bishop of Winchester, who became Chancellor; and the record describes the Seals as "one Great Seal of gold, "another Seal of silver of a large form, and the "third Seal of silver of a smaller form."[3] Bishop Waynflete seems to have been dismissed from, or to have resigned, the Chancellorship, in a very sudden manner, arising, probably, from the success of the Yorkists, as he surrendered to the King *one* of his Great Seals of *silver* in his tent pitched in a field called Hardingstone Field, near the Abbey of St. Mary De Pratis, close to Northampton, on the 7th of July 1460, in the presence only of the Bishops of Hereford and Durham, Master Thomas Mannyng, the King's Secretary, and two Esquires. The Seal

[1] p. 355, *postea.*
[2] pp. 358 359, *postea.*
[3] p. 360, *postea.*

THE GREAT SEAL. was deposited in a chest, locked, and the key of it given to the King.[1]

It is certain that the Great Seal was again placed in the custody of Bourchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, between the 7th and 25th of July in the same year; whose name, however, does not occur in Sir William Dugdale's, or in any other catalogue, as being Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper during that period. His tenure of the Seals could not have exceeded seventeen or eighteen days, because the Bishop of Winchester surrendered the Great Seal on the 7th, and on the 25th of July the Archbishop of Canterbury (who is not styled Chancellor or Lord Keeper in the record) delivered to the King, in the house of the Bishop of London called the Bishop's Palace, in London, *three Great Seals* of the King, one of *gold*, and the other *two* of *silver*, on which day his Majesty gave them to George Neville, Bishop of Exeter, the new Chancellor. On the 26th of July, however, that personage surrendered back into the King's hands *two* of the said three Seals, namely, one of *gold*, and the other of *silver*, which his Majesty retained.[2]

There can be little doubt that though there were two, and, in the latter part of Henry the Sixth's reign, even three, Great Seals in existence, yet that only *one* of them, namely, the large silver Seal, was generally used. The gold Seal was clearly not the usual official Seal, for one Chancellor never

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[1] p. 361, *postea.*

[2] pp. 362, 363, *postea.*

received it into his custody; another seems to have had only the silver Seal with him when he was unexpectedly called upon to retire from office; and on the last occasion, when the gold and smaller silver Great Seal are both mentioned, they were restored to the King, evidently from their being useless to the new Chancellor, within a few hours after his appointment. The Great Seal of gold was, however, delivered to Bishop Neville, on his re-appointment to the Chancellorship by Edward the Fourth immediately after his accession.[1] But neither that Seal nor the smaller one of silver are noticed in the other records of the delivery of the Seals in that, or in any subsequent reign; and only *one* Great Seal[2] is spoken of throughout Prynne's learned treatise on the subject.

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Attention ought to be drawn to two other facts respecting the Great Seal during the early part of the period to which the preceding observations refer. Whenever it was not in use, it was kept under the Seals of one or more Clerks of the Chancery; and it was sometimes necessary that they should be present when it was taken out of the purse or bag in which it was deposited, so that, in fact, the Keeper of the Great Seal could not use it without summoning some inferior officers of the Court of Chancery. It is like-

[1] Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 473.

[2] Lord Coke merely notices the fact that Henry the Sixth had two Great Seals. (4th Inst. 88.)

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wise remarkable that in all the Records of the surrender and delivery of the Great Seal, it is particularly stated, that on its being placed in the hands of the new Chancellor or Keeper he had sealed Writs, Charters, or Patents therewith; as if the actual *use* of the Seal was necessary to prove that he had taken full possession of his Office.

In the reign of Henry the Eighth the Lord Chancellor appears to have taken the Great Seal with him wherever he went, even when he quitted the Realm; but he seems to have possessed the power of entrusting it to another person for a temporary purpose. Thus, Secretary Pace informed Lord Chancellor Wolsey, who was at Calais in October 1521, that the King said Trinity term might be kept, if he would send home the Master of the Rolls with the Great Seal for that purpose.[1] It being, however, determined to adjourn the Term in case the plague continued, the necessary Writs were sent to Wolsey, to be sealed and returned to the King.[2]

The remaining observations will be confined to the manner in which the Great Seal, has, to use a technical expression, been "put in motion;" or, in other words, what was at various periods considered the Chancellor's *proper authority* for affixing it to instruments which derive from it their validity and legal effect.

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[1] State Papers, vol. i. p. 70. [2] *Ibid.* p. 76.

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With the few exceptions, which will be afterwards noticed, the Great Seal cannot be used without the express commands of the King; and there have been several modes in which He has expressed His commands to the Chancellor for that purpose; viz., 1st, Verbally; 2ndly, by Letters under his Signet, or other small Seal addressed directly to him; 3rdly, by Letters under the Privy Seal, similarly addressed; and 4thly, by the two latter means conjoined, that is, by Letters under the Signet addressed to the Keeper of the Privy Seal, who thereupon intimates the Royal pleasure to the Lord Chancellor by a Warrant under the Privy Seal.

Of the usual manner of proceeding before the reign of Richard the Second, little more is known than what is to be gathered from the notices which were generally, though not always, added at the end of Charters and Patents, stating the immediate authority upon which they had been granted. These notices exhibit the following among, perhaps, other variations: "By "the King himself, and all the Council[1]:" "By "Writ of Privy Seal[2]:" "This Charter was made "according to our mandate sent by the Bishop of "Winchester[3]:" "By the King himself:" "By "the Petition of the Council:" "By the Coun- "cil:" "By the King himself and the Great

[1] Charter 51 Hen. III.

[2] 34 Edw. I.; and very generally at all periods.

[3] 19 Edw. II.

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"Council:" "By the King and Council in full "Parliament[1]:" "By fine paid into the Hanaper:" "By Letters of the King himself of the Signet[2]:" "By the King, and afterwards by the announce- "ment of the Constable of England:" "By Peti- "tion in Parliament[3];" and sometimes "By the "King's own word of mouth."[4]

The evils and inconveniences which arose from the Chancellor being obliged to pass any Grant which the King, through the influence of favourites or from momentary impulse, might be induced to confer, without the previous interposition of his Council, or of some of his responsible Ministers, were shewn on numerous occasions, and were, as has been already observed, frequently the subject of complaints in Parliament. Various remedies were at different times suggested, but it was long before any effectual restraint could be imposed upon the King's personal authority respecting Grants. Perhaps the earliest effort made by the Legislature to render the Keeper of the Privy Seal, as well as the Chancellor, responsible for illegal Grants, was in the 13th Ric. II. 1389[5], with reference to pardons of treasons and felonies; and the next appears to have occurred in the 8th of Henry the Fourth. In December of that year (1406) it was agreed by the King and Parliament, that, for the preservation of the

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1 Between 5 and 10 Edw. III. 2 10 Ric. II. 3 1 Hen. IV.

4 Per ipsum Regem ore tenus. 5 *Vide* p. cxliii, *antea*.

Laws of the Kingdom, the Chancellor and the Keeper of the Privy Seal should not allow any Warrant, Grant by Patent, Judgment, or any other thing, to pass under the Seals in their custody, or in the custody of either of them, which by Law and right ought not to pass; and that they should not unduly delay such as ought to pass.[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

In the 18th of Henry the Sixth a Statute was passed, which stated that numerous persons had obtained Grants of Offices and Lands from a date long antecedent to that of the Patent which conferred them, whence it had often happened, that parties who were in actual possession under previous Patents had been unjustly removed, "against right, good conscience, or reason." It was therefore enacted, that the day of the delivery of every Warrant thereafter sent by the King to the Chancellor, should be recorded in Chancery; and that the Letters Patent issued pursuant to such Warrant should be dated on the day on which it was delivered into Chancery, and not before. All Patents afterwards made to the contrary were to be utterly void and of none effect.[2] After this Statute all Letters Patent or Charters, in addition to the usual words, "By the "King himself," or "By Writ of Privy Seal," &c., are said to have been granted "of the Date afore-"said, by the authority of Parliament," which has sometimes been absurdly supposed to mean, that

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. iii. p. 586. [2] Stat. 18 Hen. VI. c. 1.

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such instruments had the force of an Act of Parliament.

Neither the Parliamentary Ordinances of 1389, or 1406, nor this Statute, rendered a Warrant under the Privy Seal indispensible to authorize the Chancellor to affix the Great Seal to Grants of Honors, Offices, or Lands; and it is a remarkable fact, that the present excellent system of a gradation of Officers, each imposing a check upon the other, which is thus eulogized by Lord Coke, was (with the few exceptions hereafter mentioned) first universally acted upon, and became part of the Statute Law of the country, in the arbitrary reign of Henry the Eighth:

"At the making of this Statute (28 Edw. I.) "the King had another Seal, and that is called "'Signettum,' his Signet. This Seal is ever in "the custody of the Principal Secretary; and there "be four Clerks of the Signet, called 'Clerici Sig-"netti,' attending on him. The reason wherefore "it is in the Secretaries custody, is, for that the "King's private Letters are signed therewith. Also "the duty of the Clerk of the Signet is to write "out such Grants or Letters Patent as pass by Bill "signed (that is, a Bill superscribed with the Sig-"nature, or Sign Manual, or Royal hand of the "King,) to the Privy Seal; which Bill, being "transcribed and sealed with the Signet, is a "Warrant to the Privy Seal, and the Privy Seal "is a Warrant to the Great Seal. Such was the "wisdom of prudent Antiquity, that whatsoever

" should pass the Great Seal, should come through " so many hands, to the end that nothing should " pass that Great Seal, that is so highly esteemed " and accounted of in Law, that was against Law, " or inconvenient; or that any thing should pass " from the King any ways, which he intended " not, by undue or surreptitious means."[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

Although the establishment of a regular chain of official responsibility in making Grants, under the Great Seal, did not come into general use until a comparatively late period, an arrangement founded upon that system was not only proposed by the Council to, but actually received the consent of, King Henry the Sixth. This circumstance is shewn by the Ordinance which was submitted to and approved by that Monarch about the year 1443; but as it has been already fully abstracted[2] it is only requisite to refer to so much of it as bears upon the matter under discussion. The object was clearly to prevent improper Grants; and as

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[1] Second Institute, p. 556. The system is also justly praised by Blackstone. " The King's Grants are also matter of public record; " for, as St. Germyn says (Doctor and Student, B. I. d. 8.), the King's " Excellency is so high in the Law that no freehold may be given to " the King, nor derived from him, but by matter of record. And to " this end a variety of Offices are erected, communicating in a regular " subordination one with another, through which all the King's Grants " must pass, and be transcribed and enrolled, that the same may be " narrowly inspected by his Officers, who will inform him if any thing " contained therein is improper or unlawful to be granted." Commentaries, vol. ii. p. 346.

[2] p. xci–xciv, *antea*; and p. 316, *et seq.*, *postea*, where it is printed at length.

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the Statute of the 18th Hen. VI. provided against antedating Patents, so this Ordinance, after securing means for rendering the King fully acquainted with the nature of all Petitions, provided that a clause should be introduced into all Grants, making them conditional upon the things solicited not having been already conferred.

The regulation by which it was sought to impose a restraint upon a hasty exercise of the King's prerogative, was as follows:

"Item, that forasmuch as it is like that such "thing as passeth the hands of many persons shall "the more readily and sadly pass, and any hurt that "should else more grow to the King or to prejudice "of any other person the more to be eschewed, it "is thought that all Bills, when the King of his "good grace hath granted them, be delivered to "his Secretary, and Letters to be conceived upon "them, directed under the Signet to the Keeper "of the Privy Seal, and from thence under the "Privy Seal to the Chancellor of England."

"Item, that the Keeper of the Privy Seal, "what time he receiveth Letters under the Signet, "shall, if it be thought to him that the matter "contained in the same be of great charge, have "recourse to the Lords of the Council, and open "to them the matter, to the intent that if it be "thought necessary to them the King be adver-"tised thereof, ere it pass."[1]

[1] p. 318, 319, *postea.*

While this arrangement was intended by its authors to be a check upon the Royal will, they still feared it might raise the suspicion of its being intended to touch the King's prerogative; for in the introduction to the Ordinance the Council humbly protested, that they submitted the project to his Majesty "only by way of advertisement, and "none otherwise; for they in no wise think, nor "have will to do or [propose], anything but that "the King's good Grace do at all times as it shall "please him, and use his power and will as it "appertaineth to his Royal estate."[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

Some pains have been taken to ascertain whether this admirable arrangement was immediately acted upon; and the result of the inquiry shews that though Grants from the Crown appear to have been made in conformity with its provisions, for some time after it was issued, and though it may have induced the Crown to employ the intervention of the Privy Seal more frequently than before, yet that its main object — of rendering the sanction of the Keeper of the Privy Seal indispensible to every instrument that passed the Great Seal — was certainly not attained.

All the Letters Missive now in the Tower to the Chancellor in the reigns of Henry the Sixth and Edward the Fourth have been examined; and they prove that the most material provisions of that Ordinance were disregarded. After, as well as

[1] p. 316, *postea*.

THE GREAT SEAL. before 1443, the King was in the habit of sending his commands, under his Signet, directly to the Chancellor, to make Grants of every description—of Offices, Honors, Lands, and Privileges—without any Writ of Privy Seal. Patents marked "Per ipsum "Regem" were equally common; and although many Patents were certainly issued by authority of Writs of Privy Seal, which may have been considered the regular method, still they were not more numerous than theretofore; nor is it possible to define accurately in what cases Writs of Privy Seal were then thought indispensible to justify the Chancellor in using the Great Seal. No general rule seems to have been adopted; but those Writs are supposed to have been very rarely used when the King gave his commands verbally to the Chancellor, or when a Petition, to which his Majesty had acceded, recited the form in which the thing prayed for was to be granted.

The Ordinance of the 22nd Hen. VI. appears, however, to have created some doubt of the validity of such Grants as had been passed upon no other authority than Warrants under the Signet, or Signet of the Eagle, or of Bills signed by the King and indorsed by the Chamberlain, or Clerk of the Council; for in November 1444 the King issued the following Writ of Privy Seal, declaring that all such Grants as had passed since the tenth year of his reign, pursuant to such Bills and Letters, should be as "firm and stable," and to the Chancellor of as sufficient Warrant, as though

he had made them by authority of Letters of Privy Seal:— THE GREAT SEAL.

"Herry, by the grace of God Kynge of "England and of Fraunce, and Lord of Irland, "to our Chauncellor of England, gretynge. All "such grauntes as that sith the x^th^. yere of our "regne unto this tyme Ye by force and vertue of "Billes with our own hond, and by Lettres under "our Signettes of the Egle and Armes, and also "by Billes endoced by our Chamberleyns hands, "and Clerk of our Counsail, have made our "Lettres Patentes under our Grete Seel, We hold "theym ferme and stable, and of as grete strength "and valewe, and to yowe as sufficient warrant, as "though ye had had for theime our Lettres of "Prive Seal; any statut, charge, restraint, act, or "commaundement to yowe made into the contrarie "notwithstondyng. Yeven under our Prive Seal, "at our manoir within our park of Wyndesore, "the vij. day of November, the yere of our regne "xxiij."[1]

Although this document tends to shew that the regular course, in making Grants, was by Writs of Privy Seal, it not only proves that the King considered that he might, as he often did, command the Chancellor to act without them, but that he could, by his mere declaration, confer validity upon all Grants which had been passed under such circumstances.

[1] Rot. Pat., p. 1. 23 Hen. VI. m. 18.

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A remarkable instance of the King's dispensing with the Privy Seal occurred in 1447. Henry having pardoned a person who had been convicted of high treason, a letter, sealed with the Signet of the Eagle, was sent to the Chancellor, commanding him to grant the offender a pardon under the Great Seal; and informing him, "that "when the Privy Seal should come into country, "we shall send you your sufficient Warrant in this "behalf."[1] This process, by which the Chancellor was ordered to act without his proper Warrant, upon a promise that it should be sent to him after the deed should have been irrevocable, proves how little the principle of official responsibility was then understood, or, at least, attended to.

The following circumstance exhibits another example of the King's disregard of those official forms by which the Crown is prevented from acting without the sanction of its advisers; and it also proves that it was not usual, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, for the King to sign all Letters which were written in his name. In 1442, Ambassadors were appointed to negociate a marriage between Henry the Sixth and a daughter of the Count of Armagnac. Their instructions, which were issued under the Great Seal in the usual manner, only empowered them to treat for an alliance with the lady who was specially named therein; but the King afterwards wished "to set it

[1] Ex Orig. in Turr. Lond., printed in the Excerpta Historica, p. 281.

" general," that he might have the choice of either of the Count's daughters. Instead of causing so important a variation from the original instructions to be executed in a proper manner, under the Great Seal, it was merely expressed in a Letter from the King to the Ambassadors, under the Signet of the Eagle, and the irregularity was thus attempted to be provided for in the Letter itself: " And forasmuch as ye have none instruction of this form, " but this only which proceedeth of Our own " motion, desiring therefore that ye, notwithstanding all other, do the execution thereof, We have " signed this Letter of Our own hand, the which, " as ye wot well, We be not much accustomed " for to do in other case."[1] THE GREAT SEAL.

The Ambassadors declined to act upon that Letter, and informed his Majesty that, according to their " simple wits," it had altogether superseded their Commission. They, therefore, prayed for new powers; and another Commission was issued, which authorized them to select one of the Count's daughters; but the new Commission, though executed about the 2nd of July, bore the date of the original Commission, namely, the 20th of May 1442.[2]

In the year 1450, an Act of Parliament was passed, for resuming all the King's Grants which had

[1] Journal of Bishop Beckington, 8vo. 1828, p. 6.

[2] *Ibid.* pp. 7, 8, 9; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 7. Another example of antedating Commissions will be found in the Proceedings of the Privy Council, vol. v. p. li.

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been made since his accession, and providing that all future Grants of the Lands so resumed should be void, unless "those Letters Patent pass by advice and assent of your Chancellor and Your "Treasurer of England, Privy Seal, and six Lords "of your Great Council for the time being, and "that they, and each of them, subscribe in such "Letters Patent their names; and that the said "Letters Patent, so subscribed with the names, "be enrolled in Your Chancery of record."[1] This regulation explains the occurrence of so many Signatures to the Acts of the Council, upon which the Chancellor was to issue Letters Patent, after the 29th of Henry the Sixth[2]; but as no Patent itself has ever contained the Signatures of Officers of State, or Members of the Council, the meaning of the Act must have been that the persons therein mentioned should subscribe, not the Letters Patent themselves, but the original Warrants which formed the Chancellor's authority for issuing them. The whole proceeding is, however, another proof of the anxiety of the Commons to prevent improper Grants, though they committed the mistake of throwing upon numerous individuals a responsibility, which, to be effectual, ought to be as little divided as possible; for there is no greater error than to attribute security and efficiency, in matters of public business, to numbers.

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[1] Rot. Parl., 29 Hen.VI. vol. v. p. 218.

[2] *Vide postea*, pp. 167, 169, 171, *et seq.*

On many occasions King Edward the Fourth enforced his directions in his Letters to the Chancellor by adding his commands in his own handwriting. Some riots having occurred at Bristol, the Chancellor was ordered, by a Letter signed by the King and sealed with the Signet, to make a Commission of oyer and terminer for the punishment of the offenders; and Edward himself wrote on it, "Cosyn, yff ye thynke ye schall have a War-"rant, thys Our wryten that soffyse unto ye may "have on made in dew forme; We pray you "hyt fayle not[1];" an addition which shews the King's doubt whether the Chancellor would consider the Letter itself of sufficient authority. By "Warrant," in this instance, was evidently meant Letters of Privy Seal. About 1465 Sir Robert Kirkham, Master of the Rolls and Keeper of the Great Seal, seems to have hesitated in acting upon Letters of the above description; and the King's opinion on the subject was expressed in a very remarkable manner. He had commanded Kirkham to issue Letters of safe conduct under the Great Seal for a Spanish vessel and her crew then at Southampton, for which, probably on account of his not considering the Letter Missive his proper authority, Letters of Privy Seal, or, as they are called, "our Letters of Warrant under our "Privy Seal," were likewise sent to him. Kirkham nevertheless still hesitated to obey the com-

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[1] Ex Orig. in Turr. Lond.

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mand (perhaps because he doubted the legality or expediency of the proceeding), upon which the King ordered another Letter under the Signet to be sent to him, wherein, after stating the above facts, and his Majesty's surprise at his non-compliance, commanded him, that immediately on the sight of that Letter he should make and deliver the said instrument without any delay, and that if the Warrant before issued was not sufficient for his discharge it should be renewed, "*Albeit,*" the King adds, "*Our speech to you, Us thinketh, was suffi-* "*cient Warrant;*" and at the bottom he wrote, in his own hand, "Sir, We will the premises be sped "without delay." It is therefore evident that whatever may have been the opinion of Sir Robert Kirkham, of the necessity of a Warrant of Privy Seal to justify him in affixing the Great Seal to any instrument, the King considered that even his *verbal commands* were sufficient for the purpose.[1]

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[1] Ex Orig. in Turr. Lond. The following is a copy of the original document:—

"By the King.

"Trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wel, and remembre us "þat we spake unto you, clerc of our Rolles, to do make a cler̃ "and sure saufconduite for the Kervel of Spayne, being at South-"amptoñ, and for the maist̃s, m̃chants, and mariñs of þ^e same, "to be made under our greet seel in due forme. Wherupoñ, "according to þe same entent, our Cousin of Worcestr̃ deliṽed "unto you o^r l̃res of warrant under o^r p^ive seel, the which "not w^tstanding, ye differre to make owt and deliṽ our said "l̃res of saufcondite, wherof we m̃vayle; wherfor we charge "you straytly þ^t incontinēt upon the sight herof ye do make

There are two other instances of additions being made to Bills or Letters Missive by Edward the Fourth.[1] In 1479 the Chancellor was ordered to grant Letters Patent of a corrody in the Monastery of Gloucester to one of the King's servants upon his Petition, which was signed by Edward in the usual manner; and his Majesty wrote under it, "My Lorde Chanseler, Wee pray you "spede thys Bille and take hyt for your war-"rant."[1] These special instructions were generally given in cases of doubt or difficulty, or when it was necessary to countermand a previous order. Thus, the King having, towards the end of his reign, ordered that before a Writ "de procedendo" was issued to the Abbot of St. Benett in Hulme, an Inquisition should be held, but his "dearest "Lady mother" having exerted her influence with

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"and deliv̄ þem w^t^oute eny delay, lating you wite þ^t^ and yo^r^ war-"rant be not souffisant for yo^r^ discharge ye shal have it renewed, "albe it our speche to you us thynketh was souffisant warrant; "and over þis, we wol and straytly charge you, Thom^a^s Colt, "þ^t^ ye deliv̄ þe same ꝉres of saufcondite w^t^oute eny fee therof or "therfor to o^r^ use taking, and w^t^oute eny delay, as our very "trust is in you. Yeven under our signet at our monastery of "Saint Albañ, þe xxix. day of Avril.

"*S^r^, We wyll̄ the p̄myssys be speyd w^t^oute delay.*

"To oure trusty and welbeloved clerc, Maistr̄ Ro-"bert Kirkeh^a^m, keper of our greet seel, and of our "Rolles in our Chauncerie, and our right welbeloved "Counsellour Thom[as] Colt, clerc of our Hanaper."

[1] A very interesting example of the kind by Richard the Third is well known. *Vide* Ellis's Letters illustrative of English History, Second Series, vol. i.

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the King to obtain that Writ without any delay, He, the next day, commanded the Chancellor to issue and deliver it into the hands of his "said "most dear Lady mother, to the intent that she "may use the same as shall be thought best to "her and to her Council;" and the Letter proceeds, "This We wol ye speed in any wise, as Our trust "is in you; and these Our Letters shall be unto you "sufficient Warrant and discharge." The King, moreover, added, in his own hand, "My Lord "Chanseler, thys most be don."[1]

That a Warrant under the Privy Seal might, in certain cases, be required by the Chancellor, but that the want of it could be supplied by special Letters under the King's Sign Manual and Signet, may be inferred from the proceedings on the creation to the Earldom of Lincoln of the King's nephew, John de la Pole, eldest son of the Duke of Suffolk, in March 1467. On the 10th of that month, a Letter was written to the Chancellor, under the Signet and Sign Manual, stating that, "for so much as We, for divers considerations "Us moving, have erect, ordained, and create "Our dear nephew John, son and heir to Our "right trusty and well beloved brother the Duke "of Suffolk, Earl of Lincoln, as shall appear "unto you by Our Letters under Our Signet, which, "We send unto you by the bearer hereof, We "therefore desire and pray you, that, by Warrant

[1] Ex Orig. in Turr. Lond.

" of Our said Letters and of these, *considering the* THE GREAT SEAL.
" *great distance hence and absence of Our Privy Seal,*
" ye do make our Letters Patents of the said
" creation, without failing, as Our trust is in you;
" wherein ye shall do Us a singular pleasure.
" Given under Our Signet, at Our Castle of Wind-
" sor, the 10th day of March."[1]

The "Letters" alluded to in that communication, which resembles what was afterwards, and is now, called an "immediate Warrant[2]," are also preserved. Though said to have been written at the same time, and forwarded by the same messenger, they are not dated until two days after; and they merely contain a copy of the creation, and the King's commands to the Chancellor to make Letters Patent under the Great Seal in that form. They are not signed by the King, but commence "Per Regem," and bear the following subscription: "Data nostro sub *Signeto* apud Castrum " nostrum de Wyndesore xij°. die Marcii anno " regni nostri septimo. Harpisfield." The following "Memorandum, quod xiij°. die Marcii anno " subscripto istud breve liberatum fuit Domino " Cancellario Angliæ apud Westmonasterium exe-" quendum," is written at the head of the Bill in a different hand.[3] On the 13th of March, the Chancellor placed the Great Seal to the Earl of Lincoln's patent; and it is stated to have been done "per " ipsum Regem."[3]

[1] Ex Orig. in Turr. Lond.
[2] *Vide* p. cciii, *postea*.
[3] Rot. Cart. 5-8 Edw. IV. n. 4.

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It is deserving of attention, that the language of all Grants and other documents which convey the Royal Commands, or give effect to the Royal intentions, imports that the Grants or Commands themselves have *preceded*, and are *independent* of, the written instruments in which they are expressed. By a flattering fiction, the King's Grants and commands are complete the moment He deigns to signify his pleasure; and all subsequent proceedings would appear to be only necessary for the purpose of recording His will, and to prevent the same property from being granted to others. Nor has the delusion been removed by the stern fact that the Law pays little regard to any other manifestation of the Royal authority than those written instruments, to which one or more responsible Ministers of the Crown have given their sanction. A question has never been entertained of the absolute necessity of Letters Patent, or of a Charter, under the Great Seal, to render the King's Grants operative; and any declaration of the *intention* of the Crown to make a Grant, whether verbally, by Letters under the Signet, or even by Warrant of Privy Seal, is wholly useless, unless those preliminary measures be completely carried into effect by the Great Seal.

In the 27th of Henry the Eighth, a Statute was passed, which, in many points, adopted the proposition made by the Council, and signed by the King, in the 22nd Hen. VI., of rendering a Warrant of Privy Seal necessary, in most cases, to authorize

the Chancellor to affix the Great Seal to Grants and other instruments. By that Statute, of which the professed object was to secure certain fees to the Clerks of the Signet, it was enacted "that all and every Gift, Grant, and other Writing which shall be made or given in writing by the King to any person, signed with his Sign Manual, to be passed under any of his Great Seals of England, Ireland, the Duchy of Lancaster, Counties Palatine, or Principality of Wales, or by other process out of the Exchequer, and that all and every Gifts, Grants, and other Writings, of what name or quality soever, whereby any the King's officer or officers then being, or which might afterwards be, might by virtue of any Act of Parliament, or any the King's Grants to them or any of them made, shall make any Grant in the King's name, to be passed under any of his Majesty's Seals, should be in any wise, first, and before the said Grants be passed under any of the King's said Seals, or other process made of the same, brought and delivered to the King's Principal Secretary, or to one of the King's Clerks of his Signet, to be at the said Office of the Signet passed accordingly." The Clerk of the Signet, to whom any of the said writings signed by the King, or by the hand of the Officers before mentioned might be brought, was, by Warrant of the same Bills, within eight days (unless informed by the King's Secretary or otherwise, of the King's pleasure to the contrary) to make, in the King's

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" rant."[1] From this Act were excepted all War- THE GREAT SEAL.
rants or Precepts which the Lord Treasurer, by virtue of his Office, might direct immediately to the Lord Chancellor, or to any other person for making the King's Grants or Letters Patent to any person of any Offices or Lands in his gift; and it was provided, that the Lord Chancellor "might " at all times use his discretion in passing and " speeding any thing by the Great Seal, and " delivering the same, without paying any fees for " the Great Seal, Signet, and Privy Seal, as the " case of necessity shall require, and as hath " been accustomed; and that the Clerks for writ- " ing or procuring such Writings and Patents, " by his commandment, should be discharged of " all penalties for not receiving and paying fees " to the Signet and Privy Seal." It was declared that the Act should "not be prejudicial to any " person whom the King shall, by express com- " mandment, direct, send, or appoint to procure " any thing to be sealed with any of his Seals, " for or concerning his Majesty's private affairs, " or the affairs of his Realm," which might be

[1] An "Immediate Warrant" is the King's written command to pass the Bill, on which it is expressed, without delay. Its effect is to render the attachment of the Signet and of the Privy Seal unnecessary, it being merely stated on the Bill itself, by the Clerk of the Signet, and the Clerk of the Privy Seal, that it has passed through those Offices. This notification is, therefore, tantamount, so far as the responsibility of the Lord Privy Seal is concerned, to a Warrant of Privy Seal, and forms a sufficient guarantee to the Lord Chancellor that the measure has received the sanction of that Officer.

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obtained without such person being bound to procure any manner of Warrant or paying any fees; and it was also provided that the Act should not affect grants of leases of farms under the yearly value of £6. 13*s.* 4*d.*[1]

Although the Statute of the 27th of Hen. VIII. seems to have rendered it imperative for all Crown Grants[2] (except those therein excepted) to proceed upon a Warrant under the Signet to the Keeper of the Privy Seal, whose Warrant becomes the authority to the Great Seal, both Lord Coke and Mr. Justice Blackstone speak of Letters Patent "being passed by Bill signed, without Privy "Seal[3];" notwithstanding that the former of these learned writers has, in another of his works,

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[1] Stat. 27 Hen. VIII. c. 11.

[2] Among the charges brought against Cardinal Wolsey, as Lord Chancellor, seven years before this Statute, two were that he had affixed the Great Seal to a Commission and to Licences without the King's Warrant or Commandment. (4 Inst. pp. 89, 90.) When the new Court of Augmentations was about to be created, it was proposed that all Grants made by its authority should pass under its own Seal only; upon which Wriothesley, the Lord Chancellor, wrote to the King's Principal Secretary, stating that by such a regulation "the estimation of the "Court of the Chancery, and of the Great Seal of England, shall "thereby so much decay, as my firm trust is, his Majesty, who of "his own goodness made me his Chancellor, will not suffer it to do in "my time;" and he prayed the King "to preserve the course of his most "ancient Court and Seal, with the poor estimation and living of his "Ministers, as it fall not now to the ground, which sithens the Con-"quest hath been ever specially preserved." The Chancellor's principal motive was, evidently, to prevent the loss of fees to himself and the Officers of his Court which would ensue from the proposed alteration. (State Papers, vol. i. p. 882.)

[3] 8 Co. 18 b.; Commentaries, vol. ii. p. 346.

alluded to this gradation of Offices as shewing "the wisdom of prudent antiquity[1]," whilst the latter mentions a "variety of Offices, communicating in a regular subordination one with another, through which all the King's grants must pass[2]," in the very same page in which he points out an exception to the practice. It was therefore desirable to ascertain, by inquiries at the proper Offices, what Patents *now* pass the Great Seal, without the intervention of the Signet, or Privy Seal; and it appears that the only instruments of the nature of a *Grant* under the Great Seal, for which a Warrant of Privy Seal is not required, are those for the appointment of the Judges[3], the Attorney and Solicitor General, King's Serjeants[4], Kings Counsel, and the Officers for the conservation of the River Thames.[5] The Warrants

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[1] Second Institute, p. 556; *vide* p. clxxxvi, *antea*.

[2] Commentaries, vol. ii. p. 346. Lord Coke does not appear to have considered this subject with his usual attention, when he adverted to it in his Eighth Report, for he there says that "if the words 'authoritate 'Parliamenti' be added to a Patent, then it passes according to the Act of 27 Hen. VIII. c. 11;" whereas those words were added in consequence of the Statute of the 18th Hen. VI., *nearly one hundred years before*. *Vide* p. clxxv, *antea*.

[3] The Lord Chief Justice of England is not, however, appointed by Patent, but is commanded to take upon himself that Office, by a Writ under the Great Seal. (Fourth Institute, pp. 74, 75.) The Patents appointing the Master of the Rolls, Vice-Chancellor, and Masters in Chancery are issued pursuant to Warrants of Privy Seal.

[4] Serjeants at Law are called by Writ under Warrants prepared in the Crown Office, and signed by the King. *Vide* 12th Report, p. 70.

[5] The following are said to be the only Instruments (and they certainly are so, as far as concerns the Crown Office), which now pass the Great Seal, pursuant to Warrants signed by the King, without War-

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upon which the Letters Patent for those Offices issue, are prepared at the Crown Office, by the Chancellor's order, and he obtains the King's Signature to them, without their passing through

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rants of Privy Seal, and without being entered either at the Office of Privy Seal or of the Signet.

PATENTS, appointing the Chief Justices and Chief Baron; the Puisne Judges and Puisne Barons, and the Cursitor Baron; the Attorney and Solicitor General, and the Attorney General in Wales; King's Counsel; King's Serjeants; for granting Precedence to Counsel; and for appointing Custodes Rotulorum for Counties and Towns.

COMMISSIONS, for opening and proroguing Parliament; for giving the Royal Assent to Bills; for appointing Speakers of the House of Lords; for approving of Speakers of the House of Commons; for appointing certain of the Judges and Masters in Chancery to sit in the Court of Chancery to hear causes, &c., in the absence of the Lord Chancellor, which is called the Chancery Commission.

WARRANTS, for regulating the Precedency of Serjeants at Law, and for appointing a Baron of the Exchequer to sit on the Equity side of that Court, in the absence of the Chief Baron, are signed by the King, but no Letters Patent are issued thereupon.

From the Patent Office no Instruments of any kind pass the Great Seal, without a Warrant of Privy Seal. There are, however, several Commissions, sealed with the Great Seal and prepared in the Crown Office, for which the direct authority of the King is not necessary, as they are prepared and receive the Great Seal upon the fiat of the Lord Chancellor only; viz., Commissions for holding the Circuits in England and Wales; Commissions of Peace in England, Scotland, and Wales; Special Commissions of Oyer and Terminer for the trial of prisoners under certain circumstances, and other Commissions for the Administration of Justice. Although Patents appointing the Judges in *England* (except the Master of the Rolls and Vice-Chancellor) pass without Warrants of Privy Seal, such Warrants are issued for granting Patents of the Offices of Chief Justices and Puisne Judges in *India*. The Judges in the Colonies are appointed by a Royal Warrant which issues from the Colonial Office.

the Secretary of State's, or Lord Privy Seal's Office. As the clause in the Statute of the 27th Hen. VIII. relating to the Lord Chancellor, only gives him power to dispense with the payment of fees, the custom of Patents of appointments to the situations above mentioned passing the Great Seal, without Warrant of Privy Seal is, probably, derived from prescription, and, like the power of affixing the Great Seal to Writs of Summons to Parliament[1], and to Writs and Commissions connected with the Chancery, must, perhaps, be considered incidental to the Office itself. The authority of the Lord Chancellor to pass certain Grants of Pardon without first taking the King's pleasure thereupon, is recognized by the Parliamentary Proceeding of the 13th Ric. II. 1389, before alluded to[2]; and it is likely that many other privileges of a similar nature formerly belonged to that Functionary. THE GREAT SEAL.

The duties of the Lord Privy Seal are consequently of a highly important character, though

[1] Writs of Summons to Peers to attend Parliament, on succeeding to the Peerage, are issued upon the written order of the Lord Chancellor to the Clerk of the Crown, after his Lordship is satisfied, by evidence, of the right of the party to the dignity. Writs of Summons to newly created Peers are issued by the Clerk of the Crown upon the production of the Patent of Creation, which is considered his authority, without any order from the Lord Chancellor.

For the information contained in these notes, the Editor is principally indebted to the obliging communications of Mr. Jackson of the Crown Office, Mr. Ruscoe of the Patent Office, and Mr. Goodwin of the Privy Seal Office.

[2] *Vide* p. clxxxiv, *antea*.

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that Office is now, erroneously, supposed to involve little or no responsibility. In the reign of Henry the Sixth it was his duty, on receiving the King's Warrant under the Signet, if the matter was of great weight, to communicate it to the Council before he issued a Warrant to the Great Seal for carrying it into effect[1]; and Lord Coke says, "This "is an Office of great trust and skill, that he put "this Seal to no Grant without good Warrant, nor "with Warrant if it be against Law, undue, or "inconvenient, but that first he acquaint the King "therewith."[2]

From the reign of Henry the Eighth to the present time, the usage, with respect to Letters Patent, has been consistent with the Statute; and it was thus described by one of the Under Secretaries of State for the Home Department[3] to the Parliamentary Committee on the Public Records in 1801: —

"'Some Warrants are only signed by the King "and countersigned by the Secretary of State and "the Lords of the Treasury; and a Warrant of "this sort is called a Sign Manual. All Warrants "for Crown Grants which pass the Great Seal, and "which arise in the Offices of the Secretary of "State or of the Lords Commissioners of the "Treasury, are signed by the King, and counter-"signed by such Secretary, or three or more of "such Lords, and are directed to the Attorney Ge-"neral only, to the Attorney or Solicitor General,

[1] p. 319, *postea*.
[2] Fourth Institute, p. 55.
[3] William Pollock, Esquire.

" or to both[1]; in the first case all respecting the " Peerage only, in the second on all ordinary occa- " sions, and in the third on grants of Charters. THE GREAT SEAL.

" The Lords of the Admiralty, the Earl Mar- " shal, and the Lord Chamberlain of the House- " hold, issue their Warrants (not signed by the King) " to the Attorney or Solicitor General for pre- " paring Bills for the grant of Offices under their " patronage, which pass the Great Seal; and which " (after the Attorney or Solicitor General have " signed them) have also, in like manner, the " King's signature procured through the Secre- " tary of State.

" These Warrants require those Law Officers " (or Officer) to prepare a Bill 'for Our Royal sig- " ' nature, containing our Grant unto our trusty, " ' &c. of the Office or Place,' &c.; and in most " cases direct—'and you are to insert therein all " ' such clauses and provisoes as you shall think " ' necessary.' In others, as in Commissions to " Governors of Plantations, they are directed to " prepare a Bill for the Royal signature 'in the " ' words or to the effect following,' and no lati- " tude is left to them, as the form of such Com- " missions must have been settled many years " since. The same rule is observed in all grants " of Charters; but drafts of such Charters are pre- " viously settled by such Law Officers, on a

[1] It has not been ascertained when the practice of issuing Warrants to the Law Officers of the Crown to prepare Bills commenced, but probably soon after the Revolution of 1689.

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" The Grants of ordinary Preferments in the " Church are an exception to this rule, as the " Warrants signed by the King for such are directed " in like manner 'to the Clerk of the Signet " ' attending to prepare a Bill granting,' &c., and " the Attorney or Solicitor General have no con- " cern therein.

" When such Bill is prepared and signed by " those Law Officers (or Officer), the person em- " ployed as solicitor brings it to the Secretary of " State's office for the King's signature being " obtained to it. It is there called the Attorney " General's Bill (or the Attorney and Solicitor " General's, as the case may be); the person em- " ployed as solicitor takes it from thence, when " signed by the King, to the Signet Office, where " it is called the King's Bill, and is there deposited " and remains on record; an attested transcript " thereof, under the hand of the clerk or deputy " attending, being made and handed over to the " Privy Seal Office, with a direction preceding to " it, addressed to the Lord Privy Seal, that 'he " ' cause these our Letters to be directed to our " ' Chancellor of Great Britain, commanding him " ' that under our Great Seal of Great Britain (in " ' his custody being) he cause these our Letters " ' to be made forth Patent in form following;' " and at the foot of this instrument,—'and these " ' our Letters shall be your sufficient warrant and

" ' discharge. Given under our Signet at our palace at Westminster the day of in the year of our reign.' To this instrument the King's Signet (being one of the Seals in the hands of the Secretary of State) is affixed. This is the Warrant to the Lord Privy Seal, and remains in his hands; a similar transcript, with the addition at the head of it, —' addressed to the Lord Chancellor, to cause ' Letters Patent to be passed conformably thereto ' under the Great Seal,' has the Privy Seal affixed to it; which instrument is lodged at the proper Office in Chancery (the Crown Office or that of the Clerk of the Letters Patent), where it is opened, the Privy Seal is taken off, and an engrossment is made of it. The instrument called the Privy Seal, being marked in that Office with the day it is left, is, with the engrossment for the Great Seal to be affixed to, left at the Lord Chancellor's; and if his Lordship sees no objection to the Grant he writes his name under; and this is called 'the Recepi,' and the Great Seal is then affixed, which completes the Grant. The instrument called the Privy Seal, being returned to the Office which engrossed it for the Great Seal, after a certain time is removed to the Petty Bag, and so on to the Rolls, and remains on record."[1]

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[1] First Report from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the State of the Public Records of the Kingdom. Ordered by the House of Lords to be printed 13th March 1801. p. 78.

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An erasure or interlineation in the King's Bill or Letter Missive to the Chancellor seems, formerly, to have affected its validity. Edward the Fourth having, about the year 1470, ordered a "Diet" to be kept at Alnwick for the reformation of attempts against the truce with Scotland, the Chancellor was commanded, by Letters Missive, to issue the usual proclamations; and after the date the following passage occurs:—

"Over this We send to you herein closed a "Bill, signed with Our hand, containing the tenor "of a Commission for the Diet to be kept the "day abovesaid, wherein We will that ye put in "the quorum the Bishops of Durham and Saint "Asaph; and *how be it that the same Bill is rased "and interlined, not seeming effectual for your "Warrant*, We will that you do make out our Com-"mission, and name the said Bishops in the quo-"rum, and that ye do make out our safe-conduct "for the Commissioners of Scotland, according to "the names which we sent unto ye from our town "of Northampton; and these our Letters shall be "to you Warrant sufficient in that behalf. Given "under our Signet at Ludlow, the 26th day of "May abovesaid. We send unto you herein a "Bill of directions for the hasty expedience and "sending forth of all the matters abovesaid, which "we desire and pray you hastily to put, and other-"wise as our very trust is in you."[1]

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[1] Ex orig. in Turr. Lond.

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It was not usual for the King himself to sign his Letters. They were authenticated by the Signet only; and whenever the King did affix his Signature, it was to impart greater force to them. Some instances of the King having placed his Signature to Letters have been cited, to which will be added a remarkable case that occurred in 1449, when Henry the Sixth affixed his initials, at the head and foot of an Ordinance[1] to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, stating, that "to the intent that the said "Treasurer and Chamberlains shall more well "understand and know, that it is the King's full "will and commandment that the things above-"said, and every of them, be fully done and "executed, the King hath signed this Act with "his own hand."[2]

Though only one example[3] has been found of the King's having signed a Letter of Privy Seal, there may, probably, be others; but it certainly was less usual for him to do so than to sign Letters Missive. On all occasions when the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer were directed to make any payments, they received Letters under the Privy Seal, and not under the Signet; and the greater degree of importance which was attached to the former than to

[1] In the instances of Messages from the King to Parliament it is still the custom for his Majesty to affix his signature at the foot as well as at the head of the Message.

[2] p. 87, *postea*.

[3] p. 234, *postea*.

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the latter, is manifested by the Minutes of the Council in October 1442, when Letters to the Duke of York, fixing the day on which he and the other English Ambassadors were to meet those of France (with whom they had been previously appointed to treat for peace,) and Letters to Lord Sudeley, the Chamberlain, who was also abroad, were ordered to be passed under the *Signet*, whilst Letters to the Lord Marchers, commanding them to make good ordinances and rules to prevent riots in the Marches, were issued under the *Privy Seal*.[1]

The King's Letters generally commenced "Depar le Roi," or "By the King," a style which was used by no other person, except the Prince of Wales, who, in the reign of Henry the Fourth, began his Letters to the Council "Depar le "Prince[2]," but he does not appear to have done so when addressing the King.[3]

The Answers to Petitions were commonly, but not always, written at the head, and signed by a Member of the Council[4], who, in the reign of Henry the Fifth and Sixth, was generally the Chamberlain.[5] On some occasions Henry the Fifth signified his pleasure on Petitions in his

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[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. v. p. 215.

[2] *Ibid.* vol. i. pp. 231, 233; vol. ii. pp. 61, 62.

[3] *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 229.

[4] *Ibid.* vol. i. pp. 77, 78, 89, 94, 96, *et passim*; vol. ii. pp. 113, 114.

[5] *Ibid.* vol. ii. pp. 140, 170, 311, 338, 339-342; vol. iii. p. 99; vol. v. pp. 85, 112, 115; vol. vi. p. 326.

own handwriting[1]; but there are numerous Petitions in the Tower, which were not signed by any one, though the King's Answers are expressed in them, and though they were sent to the Chancellor to issue Letters Patent upon them. THE GREAT SEAL.

Bills to the Chancellor commonly, though not always, bore the signature either of the Clerk of the Crown, or of one of the Clerks of the Signet; and it may be inferred from the Ordinance made in the 22nd Hen. VI., that the authority for affixing the Signet to all instruments was then derived immediately from the King, through his Secretary.[2]

It was usual to affix *all* his Majesty's Seals to instruments of a very important nature, such as Treaties, Instructions to Ambassadors[3], the King's Will, &c., which were accordingly often sealed with the Great Seal, the Privy Seal, and the Signet, and with any other Seal which related to the territories mentioned therein. Henry the Sixth sealed his Will with his Great Seal, the Seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Seal which he had appointed for the Castles and Lands which he had put in feoffment, as well as with the Signet which he himself used in his own government of the said Duchy, and with the Signet of his Arms; and

[1] Proceedings of the Council, vol. ii. pp. 302, 304, 315.

[2] p. 318, *postea.*

[3] Among numerous examples of this practice, see Proceedings of the Council, vol. i. pp. 172, 240; vol. ii. pp. 24, 202; and the Fœdera, *passim.*

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the Will of Henry the Seventh was sealed with his Privy Seal, his Signet which was in the custody of his Secretary, his Privy Signet of the Eagle, which was in his own keeping, and with the Great Seal.

Considerable importance was given to the Royal Sign Manual, and to the Signet, in the 27th of Henry VIII. by a Statute[1], which provided that if any person should forge and counterfeit the King's Sign Manual, Privy Signet, or Privy Seal, such offence should be adjudged High Treason; and that the offenders, their counsellors, procurers, aiders, and abettors, convicted of the same, should

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[1] Stat. 27 Hen. VIII. c. 2. The following facts shew the importance which was attached to the Signet in the reign of Henry the Eighth. In June 1543, the Council with the King informed their colleagues in London, that to the intent they might have all things at hand there for levying men for the army about to be sent to France, "and for the "expedition of other things requisite in this behalf, His Majesty hath "commanded as well me, the Lord Privy Seal, to send unto your Lord-"ships the Stamp, as me the Secretary to send unto you, my Lord "Chamberlain of Household, His Majesty's Signet, requiring you, my "said Lord Chamberlain, as soon as you shall have dispatched the "Letters for the purpose abovesaid, to send unto me, the said Secretary, "the Signet again, by a trusty messenger; because the use of the same "here is necessary, both for His Majesty's causes, and also for the private "suites and matters of his subjects." A few days afterwards, the Council in London, in a letter to the Council with the King, stated, that "the Lord Admiral hath been with us, and hath brought unto us "a Warrant signed with the King's Highness hand. And forasmuch as "we sent to you, yesterday, the Signet back again, we have thought "good to send also the Warrant again to you, which it may like you "to cause to be signed, and to be sent to us, with all diligence, who will "immediately make the direction of the same accordingly." State Papers, vol. i. pp. 746, 747, 755.

be condemned and adjudged traitors against the King and the Realm, and suffer the usual pains of death and forfeitures, as in cases of High Treason is ordained. On the accession of Edward the Sixth, the penalties of High Treason were taken away from many offences; but that of forging the Royal Sign Manual, Privy Signet, or Privy Seal was specially excepted.[1] Queen Mary, immediately after she ascended the throne, in her anxiety to render herself more popular than her predecessor, swept away the penalties of High Treason from all crimes which were not declared to be such by the Statute of the 25th Edw. III.[2]; but the necessity of rendering it High Treason to counterfeit the Coin of the Realm, or the Queen's Sign Manual, Privy Signet, or Privy Seal, caused an Act to be passed for that purpose, only a few months afterwards.[3]

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Before concluding these remarks on the King's Seals it ought to be added, that on occasions when the Signet was not at hand, it was usual to substitute one of the King's other small Seals for it; but the circumstance was usually noticed in the Letter or Bill itself. Thus, a Letter from Henry the Fifth, dated at Dover on the 8th of June 1421, is said to have been "Given under our Signet of the Eagle in

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[1] Stat. 1 Edw. VI. c. 12. § 8. It is *erroneously* stated in Ruffhead's edition of the statutes, vol. ii. p. 210, that the statute 27 Hen. VIII. c. 2, respecting the Sign Manual, Privy Signet, and Privy Seal was *repealed* by stat. 1 Edw. VI. c. 12.

[2] Stat. 1 Mar. c. 1.

[3] Stat. 1 Mar. sessio secunda, c. 6.

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"the absence of our other [1];" and it would appear from an order of the Council in May 1454, that the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster had been commanded not to consider any Letter his proper Warrant for matters concerning certain of the Duchy lands, if it were sealed with any other Seal than the Signet of the Eagle; and he was informed that the Privy Seal was thenceforward not only to be a sufficient authority to him, but he was directed to obey no other Warrants than such as were under the Privy Seal.[2]

Three Seals are said to be now delivered to each Secretary of State by the King on his appointment; namely, "THE SIGNET," which contains the Royal Arms and Supporters; another SEAL, of a smaller size, having an escutcheon of the King's Arms only; and a still smaller Seal, called "THE CACHET," which is similarly engraved. The use of the Signets has been already pointed out; and the circumstance of their being constantly required in the Signet Office for Warrants to the Privy Seal, probably caused the existence of the second Seal above mentioned, which always remains in the Secretary of State's Offices, and is affixed to the instruments which receive the Royal Signature, and which, but for the reason just stated, would pass under the Signet. THE CACHET is only used for sealing the King's Letters to Sovereign Princes, which custom, perhaps, originated from the incon-

[1] Ex orig. in Turr. Lond.

[2] p. 188, *postea*.

venience of affixing so large a Seal as the Signet, or its substitute, to a Letter. THE GREAT SEAL.

## THE KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

It is not generally known that the KING'S CHAMBERLAIN, or, as he is now called, the LORD CHAMBERLAIN OF THE KING'S HOUSEHOLD, in addition to his present duties, originally performed others of a very different, and much more important character.[1] KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

From the earliest period, both the Great Chamberlain of England and the King's Chamberlain, have always been two of the Principal Officers of State; and the latter was for some centuries an influential member of the Government. To him was confided the responsible duty of indorsing upon all Petitions presented to the King, his Majesty's answers; and the following facts will shew the consideration in which the

[1] The Office of Chamberlain, instead of being, as is sometimes supposed, confined to the mere superintendence of chambers and wardrobes, was generally of a *fiscal* nature. Thus, the Chamberlains of the Exchequer were the Comptrollers of the pells, receipts, and exitus of the King's treasury, to whom, conjointly with the Treasurer, all orders for the receipt and payments of money were formerly addressed. The Chamberlains of London and Chester are the Receivers of the Revenues of those Cities; and such also were the principal duties of the Chamberlains of Scotland, of North and South Wales, of the Duchy of Lancaster; of Berwick, Cardiganshire, Caermarthenshire, Shrewsbury, and other places. Blount says, "the Latin word seems to express the "functions of this Officer; for Camerarius dicitur à Camera, *i.e.* tes- "tudine (sive fornice), quia custodit pecunias, quæ in *Cameris* præcipuè "reservantur."

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King's Chamberlain was held, and the importance which was attached to that part of his functions.

The KING'S CHAMBERLAIN[1] was usually, though not always, a Peer of the Realm; and he was frequently the organ through which the Royal pleasure was communicated to Parliaments and to the Council.[2] He was often appointed to assist the Triers of Parliamentary Petitions[3], and to aid the execution of Ordinances made by the King and Council.[4] In the 15th Edw. III. 1341, the Chamberlain of the King's Household, with the other Officers of State, was ordered to be sworn on his appointment, to keep and maintain the Laws of the land, and the articles of the Great Charter, as well as the other Statutes.[5] Towards the close of that reign Lord Latimer was impeached for extortions and other crimes committed by him in Brittany, whilst he was Chamberlain and a Member of the Privy Council.[6]

It was provided, in the 1st year of Richard the Second, that during the King's minority his "Chief "Chamberlain" and other Great Officers should be

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[1] Among the earliest notices of the Chamberlain is a record, that in the 9th John, 1208, the King had received, by the hands of Simon the Chamberlain, at Waverley, "a book called Pliny," which had been in the custody of the Abbot and Convent of Reading. Rot. Claus., vol. i. p. 108.

[2] Rot. Parl., 18 Edw. II., 25 Edw. III., vol. ii. pp. 150 b, 237.

[3] *Ibid.* 25 Edw. III., *et passim.*

[4] *Ibid.* 50, 51 Edw. III. vol. ii. pp. 323, 363.

[5] *Ibid.* p. 128.

[6] *Ibid.* 50 Edw. III. vol. ii. p. 324 b.

chosen by the Lords in Parliament; to which the Crown assented, saving always the estate and inheritance of the Earl of Oxford, whose ancestor had been created Great Chamberlain of England, to hold, to him and his heirs, the said office of Chamberlain.[1] Three years after, the Commons prayed that the five Principal Officers, namely, the Chancellor, Treasurer, Keeper of the Privy Seal, "Chief "Chamberlain[2]," and Steward of the King's Household, might be chosen in that Parliament from the ablest persons in the Realm, and be continued in office until the next Parliament.[3] In the 11th Ric. II., Sir Simon de Burley, who had been the King's Chamberlain, was impeached for having admitted great numbers of aliens into the Royal Household, and for having made divers grants to them[4]; and the next entry on the Rolls of Parliament on the subject, in the 13th Ric. II. 1389, shews that it was then, and had probably long before been, the custom for the King's Chamberlain to indorse Petitions; and that the office of "Sub" or "Under" Chamberlain, or, as it was afterwards called, "Vice Chamberlain," then existed.

KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

In accordance with the request of the Commons in that year, that penalties should be inflicted upon those Peers and other personages who might

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[1] Rot. Parl., 50 Edw. III. vol. iii. p. 16.

[2] The title "Chief Chamberlain" seems to have been used as a distinction from "Under Chamberlain," rather than as indicating the Office of Great Chamberlain of England.

[3] Rot. Parl. 3 Ric. II., vol. iii. p. 73 b.

[4] *Ibid.* p. 242.

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solicit pardons for certain offences, the King, after saving his rights and prerogatives[1], consented that if any one petitioned him for a Charter of Pardon for the offences specified, and if the Chamberlain indorsed such Bill, or caused it to be indorsed, he should put the name of him who prayed for such Charter upon the said Bill, under a penalty of one thousand marks; that if the Under-Chamberlain indorsed such Bill, he should do the same, under the penalty of five hundred marks; that none but the Chamberlain or Under-Chamberlain should indorse such Bills, or cause them to be indorsed, under the penalty of one thousand marks; that such Bill should be sent and directed to the Keeper of the Privy Seal; that no Warrant of Privy Seal should be issued to make such a Charter, unless the Keeper of the Privy Seal received a Bill for that purpose, indorsed or signed by the Chamberlain or Under-Chamberlain, as is above said; that no Charter of Pardon of treason or other felony should pass the Chancery without a Warrant of Privy Seal, except in cases where the Chancellor might grant them by his Office, without consulting the King; and that the penalties proposed by the Commons should be inflicted upon all persons, of whatever rank, who might obtain pardons for the offences in question.[2]

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1 "Le Roy voet, sauver sa Liberte et Regalie come ses progenitours "ount faitz devant ses heures," &c.

2 Rot. Parl., vol. iii. p. 268.

KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

On the accession of Henry the Fourth[1], when more attention was paid to Legal forms, the Commons requested that the King's Chamberlain and Under-Chamberlain should be sworn not to take any brocage or gift, upon pain of forfeiture of their property, and imprisonment; and it was soon after ordered, that persons who had presented Petitions to the King, and had not been able to obtain answers to them, should apply to the Chamberlain and Council.[2]

In May 1406 the King's Chamberlain was appointed a Member of the Council, by authority of Parliament; and it was at the same time ordered that thenceforward Bills to be indorsed by the Chamberlains, and Letters addressed under the King's Signet, and mandates to the Chancellor, Treasurer, and Keeper of the Privy Seal, and to all other Officers, should be indorsed or made by the advice of the Council.[3] The Commons further prayed, that Officers under the Chamberlain might not act by Deputy; that he should execute his duties faithfully, without taking any thing for so doing; and that he should be sworn in Parliament to observe the Common and Statute Law and Ordinances, as well relating to the King's Household, as for the good government of the Realm.[4] That the Office of Under-Chamberlain was of high rank in the reign of Henry the Fourth, may

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[1] Rot. Parl., 1 Hen. IV. 1399, vol. iii. p. 433. [2] *Ibid.* p. 444.
[3] *Ibid.* p. 572. [4] *Ibid.* pp. 587, 588.

KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

be inferred from the circumstance of its being held by Sir Thomas Erpingham, a person of distinguished reputation, a Privy Councillor, and a Knight of the Garter, who, when he impeached the Bishop of Norwich in Parliament, stood between the Duke of York and the Earl of Warwick, and was then described by the King as "son bon et loial Liege, "et q'il est sage et vaillant Chivaler."[1]

In the various Ordinances for the regulation of the Council, the King's Chamberlain is always described as a Member *ex officio*[2]; and numerous instances occur, in this work, of his having signed or indorsed Petitions, in conformity with the regulations referred to, and more particularly with the remarkable Ordinance of the 22nd Hen. VI., which has been so often cited. The importance which was attached to the Duke of Gloucester's dismissal of Lord Cromwell from the Chamberlainship in 1432, and his indignant remonstrance, have been commented upon.[3]

By the Statute of Westminster, in the 13th Edw. I. 1285, the preamble to which is as follows: "Concerning the King's Marshals of "Fee, Chamberlains, Porters in the circuit of "Justices, and Serjeants bearing vierge before "Justices at Westminster, which have the same "Offices in fee, and that ask more by reason of "their fee than they have used to ask, whereupon

1 Rot. Parl., 2 Hen. IV. vol. iii. p. 456.

2 Proceedings of the Council, vol. i. pp. iii, 84, 86.

3 *Ibid.* vol. iv. pp. xli, xliii.

" many do complain on them that have known " and seen the order of the Court of long time; our " Lord the King hath caused to be inquired by " an inquest what the said Officers of fee have " used to have in times passed;—it was ordained " and commanded, that the King's Chamber- " lains from henceforth shall have of Archbishops, " Bishops, Abbots, Priors, and other persons Spi- " ritual, of Earls and Barons holding an entire " Barony, a reasonable fine when they do their " homage or fealty; and if they hold by a part of " a Barony, they shall take a reasonable fine, ac- " cording to the portion to them belonging. Other " Abbots, Priors, and other persons Spiritual and " Temporal, that hold no entire Barony, nor part " of a Barony, shall not be distrained to make fine, " as it is said by them that hold by a Barony or " part of a Barony; but the Chamberlain shall be " contented with his upper garment, or with the " price thereof; which is done in favour of persons " religious more than of lay persons, for it is " more convenient that religious men should fine " for their upper garment than be stripped." KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

In the 11th of Henry the Sixth, it was determined that the Chamberlain should not be appointed by the Council without the assent of the Duke of Bedford[1], and that he should not be removed at the pleasure of the King's preceptor.[2]

[1] Rot. Parl., vol. iv. p. 424. [2] *Ibid.* p. 433.

KING'S CHAMBERLAIN.

The duties and nature of the King's Chamberlain in the reign of King Edward the Fourth are fully described in the Regulations ordained for the government of his Household[1]; and all that

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[1] "A CHAMBERLAYN for the KING in HOUSEHOLD, the Grete Officer "sitting in the Kinges chambre; and when it requireth for matters to "be comyned of the Kinges Counsayle, then his metes and soupers in "his own chaumber, or elles with other estates of the household, as it "shall seme hym best. He taketh his brekefast, if he wulle, in opyn "dayes; he presenteth, chargeth, and dischargeth all suche persounes as "be of the Kinges chaumbre, except all suche officers of household as "ministre for any vytayle for the Kinges mouthe, or for his chambre; "for all those take theire charge at the grene cloth in the countyng "house. This is the chief hed of rulers in the Kinges chambre. Item, "as often as he chargeth or dischargeth any new person in the chaumbre, to present those persones and names into the countynghouse. "Item, he hath the punition of all them that are longing to the "chaumber for any offence or outrage; savynge the right of the "countynghouse in chekking them for theire vacations, or for lak of "recordes, or mysse recording, or for loss of torches, naperye, pottes, "cuppes, woode, or suche other stuffe comyng fro the Thesaurers "charge, and by them so miscarried. The Chaumberlayn taketh his "othe and staffe of the King, or of his Counsayle. He shall at no "tyme within this Courte be covered in his service. He may have "etyng in the hall ij. esquiers, ij. yomen; and for the yoman and other "keping his chaumbre and for his proper lyverey at nyght, in opyn "dayes, vj. loves, iiij. messes of grete mete and roste, one picher wyne, "iiij. gallons of ale, one torche, one percher, iiij. candelles wax, "vj. candelles peris'; for wynter lyverey, vj. tallwood, iij. faggotts, the "larger bycause he shuld take no thing of suche stuffe from the King's "chaumber, nor suffer none to be taken away but for worshipp to the "King. He taketh also for somer lyverey iij. tallwood, one faggot, "russhes, and litter, all the yere, of the Sergeaunt Usher of the hall "and chaumber, and of all other vytayle and stuffe as he shall have "nede to within this household, gevyng ensaumple of his content and "moderate costages in court, bothe to the Kinges honour and profit. "Item, for his robes, at Cristmas and Whitsontide, of the countyng "house, by evyn portions, 8 marks; and for his fees at Michaelmas and

need be added on the subject is, that the Office has ever since been held by persons of high rank; that by the Statute for Precedency, in the 31st Hen. VIII., the King's Chamberlain is placed next after the Lord Steward, and above all other persons of the same degree that he may happen

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" Easter, by even portions, 10 marks. This groweth to hym from the
" household, and not of the jewell-house, nor of the King's warderobe
" for the favour and help that he shulde owe in assisting the Stewarde
" Thesaurere, and other officers of householde, in speking to the King'
" Highnesse or to his noble Counsayle, for the ayde and goode con
" tinuance of the honorable conductes of his householde. Item, what
" hymself is absent from Courte he levith a yoman to kepe his
" chaumber, and purvey for his lyverey of stuffe in the countrey,
" taking in courte, at mele tymes, one payn, one messe grosse de kusyn,
" one gallon servoice; and whan hymself is present in this courte,
" to have in all vj. persons wayters within the gate. The remanent of
" his servaunts abydyng with his householde at his lyverey in the
" countrey, a garde du corps le Roy; his lyverey and every other with-
" out the King's gates is delyvered all wayes by the assent of the
" Kinges herberger, and that by his byll; and within the Kinges gates
" no man shall harborow or assigne but this Chambyrlayn or Ussher, or
" suche other under hym of the King's chambre havyng theyr power.
" This Chamberlayn besyly to serche and oversee the King's chambres;
" and the astate made therein to be according, first, for all the array
" longing to his proper royall person, for his proper beddes, for his
" proper boarde at meale tymes, for the diligent doyng in servyng
" thereof to his honour and pleasure; to assigne Kervers, Cupbearers,
" Assewers, Phisitians, Almoners, Knyghts, or other wurshypfull astate
" for the towell and for the basyn, Squires of the body to be attendaunt.
" The Ussher of the Chambre ever to see and quikly to remedy every
" thing lacking or defautes, as well in the King's inner chaumbre as in
" the utter chamber, specially in sight towarde straungers of worship,
" if the King kepe astate in his chaumbre. And dayly this Ussher
" maketh his towell or surnape as dothe a Marchall when the King is in
" the hall."

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to be of[1]; that though the Lord Chamberlain is no longer responsible for political affairs, the appointment always changes with the Administration; and that both he and the Great Chamberlain, as well as the Vice-Chamberlain, are Members of the Privy Council, which circumstances may be attributed to an adherence to ancient usage, and to a consideration for the rank which those Officers hold in the State.

The Editor must now express his gratitude to the persons by whose assistance all the volumes of this series of the Proceedings of the Privy Council have been more or less improved. Amongst those friends the Viscount Strangford has shewn the liveliest interest in their completion, and has, on numerous occasions favoured him with valuable suggestions. To Mr. Hardy of the Record Office in the Tower, he is indebted for information respecting the nature and history of the Public Muniments, which he might, in vain, have sought elsewhere; and his communications have been particularly useful respecting the King's Great Seal. From Mr. Holmes of the British Museum, he has frequently received considerable bibliographical information.

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[1] By Henry the Eighth's warrant appointing a second Secretary of State, Precedency was given to the Vice-Chamberlain next after the Master of the Horse, and immediately before the Secretary of State. See, however, the remarks on the subject, p. cxxv, *antea*.

The contents of these volumes have been copied and collated, and read, with the Editor, by Mr. John Baker, to whose ability as a transcriber of Records, and general acquaintance with the subject, a personal knowledge of nearly ten years enables him to bear strong and willing testimony.

It is equally proper that the acknowledgment which was made to the King's Printers in the first volume should be here repeated, because the work has been materially benefited by their unremitted attention to the Editor's wishes.

1*st March* 1837.

## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

p. iii. l. 33. *for* Duke *read* Earl.

v. l. 28. *for* Ibid. *read* Minutes of the Council.

vi. l. 42. *for* 92. *read* 29.

iv. and 13—16. The date assigned to the letter from the Council to the Duke of Brittany in this page is very doubtful. *See* the Preface, p. vi. note 2.

28. l. 13. *for* 1443 *read* 1443-4.

vii. and 32. The proper date of the Proceeding of the Council is undoubtedly the 1st February, 22d Hen. VI. 1444, notwithstanding it is said in the original transcript in the British Museum to have occurred in the 23rd Hen. VI. It ought, therefore, to have been inserted in p. 25. *See* the Preface, pp. x-xii.

67. The Priory mentioned in the petition is presumed to have been Rowner in *Hampshire*. *Vide* the Preface, p. lxxxviii.

xviii. and 130. The letter from the King to Sir Thomas Stanley and Sir Thomas Harrington must have been written in the 32nd and not in the 31st Hen. VI. — 1454 instead of 1453. It ought, therefore, to have been inserted in p. 181. *See* the Preface, p. lv.

131. l. 30. Exon *of the original copyist must have been* Oxon.

298. l. 19. *for* June *read* April.

299. l. 14. *for* 19. *read* 29.

396. l. 12. *for* 4, 78, *read* 4, 7, 8.

# CHRONOLOGICAL CATALOGUE

OF THE

ARTICLES RELATING TO THE REIGN

OF

# KING HENRY THE SIXTH.

[From 26th August, 22 Hen. VI. 1443, to the 28th of January, 39 Hen. VI. 1461.]

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## 22 HEN. VI. 1443–4.

*26th August, 22 Hen. VI.* 1443.—Answers given on the King's behalf to the demands made by Giles of Brittany and other ambassadors of the Duke of Brittany, wherein the King expresses his satisfaction at the arrival of the said Giles, as well on account of his consanguinity as of the virtues and noble bearing which he had displayed when he was with him in his youth; and thanks the Duke for the desire which he expressed that his brother should render him service. With respect to the claim made by the Duke of Brittany to the earldom of Richmond, on doing homage for it by proxy, the King replied, that he had never before heard of the Duke's pretensions, but that, wishing to render justice to every one, he would cause the registers and deeds thereof to be examined, and if it should be found that the Duke possessed a right to the earldom, he would willingly receive his homage, in accordance with the rights, laws, customs, and usages of the realm of England. The King thanks the Duke for his offer to promote peace between France and England; wishes him and all other Catholic Princes to be reminded of the endeavours which had been made by his father and himself to procure peace; states that he will be always ready to attend to any thing which may conduce thereto, and that he willingly accepts the Duke as a mediator: he beseeches the Duke to inform him of any overtures which might be made by the adverse party; informs him that he had decided upon sending ambassadors to

France; and adds, that if a peace should be concluded, he would use his endeavours for the Duke to be comprised therein. In reply to a demand of the ambassadors of Brittany for restitution of seizures which had been of the Bretons by the English, it is stated that daily complaints were urged by the latter against the former; that many applications had on that account been made to the late and to the present Duke of Brittany himself, but without effect; that it had been advised three years before, and the King again proposes, that commissioners should be appointed to hear and determine the complaints on both sides; and he concludes by promising to cause proclamation to be made in all his ports forbidding his subjects to molest the Bretons, and by desiring that similar mandates may be issued by the Duke - - - p. 3—7

*Apparently between September and December, 22 Hen. VI.* 1443.—Answers given on the King's behalf to certain demands conveyed from the Duke of Brittany by Giles his brother. In reply to a demand made by the Duke for the surrender of the earldom of Richmond, the King states, that, in consequence of the promise which he had lately made to the Duke's ambassadors, he had caused the registers and other muniments relative to the earldom to be examined, and had thereby ascertained that it was held by King Edward the Third, who gave it to his son the Duke of Lancaster, by whom it was subsequently surrendered and came into the hands of Richard the Second; that it was afterwards assigned in dower to Anne his Queen, and on her decease reverted to the Crown, and was held by King Henry the Fourth. He promises, however, that if the Duke can shew a clear title to the earldom, he will render him full justice. With respect to the Duke's doing homage for the said earldom by proxy, for which purpose he had given power to Giles his brother, it is stated that the King will render to him all the favour in his power, but that, according to the laws of England, any one owing homage must render it in person, and that the King's predecessors, however near might be the consanguinity of the party from whom homage was due, had never received homage in any other manner. To the Duke's request to be comprised in any treaty which might be concluded between England and France, the King replied that he had already given a promise to that effect, and that it should be kept in remembrance by himself and his Council - - - - - p. 7—9

*Probably written in* 1443.—A memorandum of matters to be submitted to the King relative to propositions which had been made by the Council to Giles of Brittany, wherein it is recited, that the said Giles had, during his infancy and his youth, manifested a desire to serve the King, and had regarded his honour, weal, and profit;—that he had since, in consideration of the great benefits and honours which the King had conferred upon him, continued in the same disposition, in proof whereof he was ready, in compliance with the letters sent

to him by the King, and the communications made to him by Lord Sudely and others, to render service to him, and to obey his commands:—To questions which had been put to him as to what service he would perform, and how he would employ himself for the King's advantage, he replied, that it was not for him to select, but for the King to command, the service which he should render; that, saving his honour, he would serve the King in any manner it might please him to command, provided that such provision were made for him that he might not be under the necessity of seeking a maintenance elsewhere, because, when he had once taken up arms on the King's behalf, he should be unable to obtain any great advantage elsewhere:—He answered, to a request which had been made to him to take an oath to the King containing certain strong obligations, that it appeared to him to be very strange, considering the good disposition which he had always shewn towards the King, and that he had always served him to his utmost, without wages:—he added, that if the King would confer upon him more property, he should be more and more obliged to him, and that he intended to serve him more by deeds than by words:—He observed, that the offers which had been made to him were too small and trifling, considering that he would be under the necessity of renouncing every other advantage:—he acknowledged that the offer was greater than his desert, but insufficient to maintain his rank with regard to the King's honour and his own:—The memorandum concludes by stating, that, on account of the great desire which the said Giles had to see the King in person, he had come to England, and was desirous that the King would speedily declare his will in the matters aforesaid - [o] p. 9—11

*Apparently about October or November, 22 Hen. VI.* 1443.—Memoir delivered to the Council by Giles of Brittany, on behalf of his brother the Duke of Brittany, wherein it is stated that the Adversary of France had communicated to the Duke, that he had ascertained that the King was about to send the Duke of Suffolk, or others, to him to treat respecting a peace, and praying the Duke to be with him at the time of their arrival, for the purpose of assisting therein, which journey the Duke had delayed until he had notified the same to the King, and ascertained his pleasure, which the said Giles requested might be signified to him:—he added, that, notwithstanding the peace which had been concluded between England and Brittany, the Duke of Somerset had entered the latter country with a great number of men-at-arms, and had committed many cruel and enormous excesses, as if it were a conquered country, although he and his followers had found all favour, and had been received as friends;—that they had pillaged and destroyed the town of Laquierche, and, whilst they held it, had made many incursions into Brittany, to the total destruction of the people thereabout;—that before he would depart he had covenanted for the Duke to pay

him 20,000 crowns, of which sum 10,000 had been paid, and he had received a bond for the payment of the remainder before Christmas next, to which stipulation the Duke had consented for the sake of avoiding the great excesses which were committed upon his people, to whom he prays that the King would cause reparation and restitution to be made - - - - p. 11—13

*2nd December, apparently in the 22nd Hen. VI.* 1443.—Letter from the Council to the Duke of Brittany, requesting to know the state of his health;—informing him that daily complaints were made to them, that, notwithstanding the peace existing between the two counties, the Duke's subjects attacked those of the King, both by sea and by land, especially such as were occupied in fishing; and, when they found few in a vessel, killed some, threw others into the water, and put the remainder into such horrible and close prison, that part of them died through the hardships which they had undergone, and others, to save their lives and be released from such torments, put themselves to such excessive ransoms as they or their friends could never pay, and, when they failed on the days appointed, were forcibly conducted to the public places and through the streets, where they were inhumanly put to death; and when they, at the point of death, desired that the sacraments might be administered to them, they were denied; and that burial in holy ground was refused to those who died;—that others were so strictly ironed that their limbs were mortified, treatment which even Saracens had never shewn to Christians, and that it was thought that many were kept so closely confined that they could not make their misery known:—The Council express an opinion that the Duke's subjects had promised peace for their own advantage only, and to deceive others, and declare their belief that these enormities were committed without the Duke's assent or knowledge, "for they would be much to his dishonour if he knew them and did not provide a remedy:"—They state that they cannot, without prejudice to the King and to his realm, permit such inhumanity to pass unnoticed, "for the blood of the victims cried upon them without ceasing for vengeance:"—They desire the Duke to signify to them by the bearer, Garter King of Arms, whether these excesses were committed with his knowledge or assent, and if not, that he would take measures that they should cease, and notify to them his answer so speedily, that they might therewith appease the inhabitants of this realm, or so provide therein as God should counsel them - - - - p. 13—16

*12th December, 22 Hen. VI.* 1443.—*Minutes of Council.* It was suggested that a yearly pension of 1,000 marks should be granted to Giles of Brittany, who had come to see the King and proffer service to him, and that, as the term would not end before Candlemas, he should have payment in hand for the first quarter, and likewise have, as a gift from the King, a cup of gold, with a sum of money therein;

and that a cup of silver gilt, worth 20 marks, and a piece of damask, should be given to Alan Lawe, one of the ambassadors of the Duke of Brittany. The King decided that Giles of Brittany should have a cup worth 100 marks, and £100 therein, and that the ambassador should have a purse containing 100 crowns, and a cloth of damask. It was also suggested that an answer should be given to the Duke of Brittany, who had been requested by the King of France to be a mediator of peace, in accordance with letters which had been previously sent to him; and that the complaints made by him against the Duke of Somerset should be inclosed in a letter to the latter, and that he should be commanded to make restitution and reformation of any attempts which he had committed in Brittany against the peace; and that these answers should be sent to the Duke of Brittany by his brother Giles - - - - - - p. 16—18

13*th December*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1443.—*Ibid.* Master Adam Moleyns reported to the Council the King's assent to and thanks for the suggestions made by them on the preceding day; and the Wardrober likewise signified the assent of Cardinal Beaufort thereto:—The Chancellor was directed to grant letters of licence to some servants of the Cardinal of Luxemburgh to cross the sea, with 300 marks, besides £200 which they had by the King's gift p. 18—19

*Ibid.*—Warrant signed by the King, authorizing the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer to raise, upon such jewels and goods of the King as should seem proper, the sum of 2,000 marks, and to deliver the same to the Earl of Shrewsbury - - p. 23

14*th December*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1443.—*Ibid.* A letter to be sent to the Duke of Brittany, relative to the peace, in conformity with the answers which had been given to his ambassadors:—A letter to be sent to the Duke of Somerset in reference to the complaint made against him by Giles of Brittany - - - - p. 19

17*th December*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1443.—Letter from the King to the Duke of Brittany, thanking him for the desire which he had expressed to exert himself as a mediator for peace between England and France, reminding him of the endeavours which had been made to obtain the same by himself and his father, and of the labours and expenses which they had thereby incurred:—He states his determination to persevere in the same course, and the pleasure with which he accepts the Duke's mediation; requests the Duke to inform him of any overtures which might be made by the adverse party; and adds, that he is about to send ambassadors into France, and that if peace should be concluded the Duke should be comprised therein in good and honourable terms - - - - - p. 20—21

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to the Duke of Somerset, informing him of the complaints which had been made by the Duke of Brittany of the infraction of the peace by him (*vide* letter in October or November, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1443; pp. 12, 13.); of the King's displeasure thereat,

if such were the case; and strictly commanding him to repair and amend any injuries which had been committed by himself or his followers in the territories of the Duke or to the prejudice of his subjects; and to take precautions for the prevention of the same in future - - - - - - - p. 22—23

*26th January*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer for the payment of 25 marks to Nicholas Husey, esquire, who was going into Brittany with Giles of Brittany p. 24

*1st February*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Petition to the King from Thomas Beckington, Bishop of Bath, praying for letters of privy seal to be directed to the Chamberlain of North Wales, authorizing him to pay, out of the issues of his office, £189, due to the said Bishop for an embassy to Guienne:—which was granted - - p. 24—25

*8th February*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Petition to the King from the Duke of Gloucester, constable of Dovor and of the Cinque Ports, praying for letters of privy seal authorizing the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to account with him for the expenses which he had incurred in repairing the church and castle of Dovor - p. 25—27

*27th February*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, directing them to pay to the Earl of Shrewsbury, who had covenanted "to do service of war" in France and Normandy for half a year, the sum of 2,000 marks, out of £10,000 whereof they had been commanded to make assignment to him p. 27

*3rd March*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—*Minutes of Council.* The Chancellor was directed to make letters patent for pledging to Cardinal Beaufort two parts of the King's rich collar, as security for 2,000 marks which he had agreed to lend to the King until the feast of St. Martin in the winter next ensuing:—Warrants to be made for the payment of £10 to Henry of Coningham of Scotland, for service to be done by him to the King;—for the appointment of Roger Falconbridge as sheriff of Lincolnshire; and a *dedimus potestatem* to Sir Thomas Comberworth to receive his oath - - - p. 28—29

*18th March*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Petition to the King from the provost and scholars of the college of Our Lady and St. Nicholas, lately founded by the King in the university of Cambridge, praying for letters of privy seal to be directed to the Clerk of the Hanaper, commanding him to deliver to them all patents and writs concerning their college, without the payment of any fine or fee:—which was granted - - - - - - - p. 92

## 23 Hen. VI. 1444–5.

14*th January*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Writ to the Chancellor ing him to issue letters patent, granting licence to Christopher de Poges, and Austin de la Robbe, merchants of Jena, and Peter de Saint John, burgess of Bruges in Flanders, to convey into and sell in England two great diamonds, two smaller ones, four great rubies, four sapphires, and twelve pearls; and, if not sold, to reconvey them out of the realm, without payment of any custom or subsidy p. 30—31

31*st January*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Petition to the King from William Cleve, clerk of the works, praying that the Treasurer might be directed to deliver to him an assignment of £1,000, to enable him to pay the workmen, and provide materials for the construction of a new hall and other offices at Eltham; the waterbridge, quadrangle, and gatehouse at Shene; the great chamber for the King; the Queen's lodging; the Parliament Chamber, and the Painted Chamber at Westminster, and the scaffolding in Westminster Abbey, "for the estate of the coronation:"—which was granted - - p. 31—32

1*st February*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—*Minute of a Council*, containing the purport of a speech made by the Duke of Suffolk, excusing himself from attending an embassy to France. As this speech is in English, it is unnecessary to abstract it - - - - p. 32—35

3*rd February*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Petition to the King from Richard Jordan, keeper of the cellars in Windsor Castle, at the manor of East Hampstead, and at Henley on the Heath, praying for a grant of "a livery of meat and drink," to be taken in the King's household when the King or his household should be at Windsor Castle, in the same manner as the keeper of the place, the keeper of the beds, and the porter of the outer-gate, take daily, and a cloth gown yearly, during his life, at the great wardrobe in London - - p. 35

9*th March*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Petition to the King from the Duke of York, stating that the castle and manor of Crickhowell had, from time out of mind, been holden of himself and his ancestors as of their castle and lordship of Blaullveny and Dynas, by knight service and other services, until Sir John Pauncefoot and his feoffees made divers estates and feoffments, reserving to him other service and reversions of the said castle and manor of Crickhowell, to the disherison of the petitioner, and praying for licence to sue in Parliament for restitution of his said inheritance:—which was granted - - p. 36—37

14*th March*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Petition to the King from Sir Andrew Ogard, stating that he had succeeded to certain lands in Denmark, where he was born, and in other places in the King of Denmark's obeisance, and desiring to know whether it were the King's pleasure for him to enjoy the same and to do the services and duties required

therefore after the laws of the countries wherein they were situated:—which was granted - - - - - - - - p. 38

*25th May, 23 Hen. VI.* 1445.—Warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, commanding them to pay to the executors of the late Lord Fanhope the sum of £540, for two ouches which had been purchased from them by the King, and to deliver the said ouches to John Merston, esquire, keeper of the jewels; and also to pay £100 to the Abbot of St. Albon's for a "circle of x ouches of gold, set with great pearle, baleys, and sapphire," which were pledged to him, and to deliver to the keeper of the jewels a George, which was bought of Sir William Estfelde - - - p. 39

## 24 HEN. VI. 1445–6.

*14th March, 24 Hen. VI.* 1446.—Letter from the King to John Bredon, a priest of Coventry, who had disseminated opinions prejudicial to the law of God and of the King, commanding him to leave that city, and to proceed to the Minister Provincial of his Order or his vicar, and to be ruled and demeaned according to the King's command p. 40

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to the Minister Provincial of the Friars Minors in England, commanding him to remove John Bredon, above-mentioned, to some convent of the Order, at the distance of forty or fifty miles from Coventry - - - - p. 40—41

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to the mayor, bailiffs, and inhabitants of Coventry, informing them that John Bredon had been commanded to revoke and renounce the opinions which he had preached to them in the pulpit in the parish churches of the said city on one or two festival days after the offering, during the time of high mass, of which revocation the tenor was contained in a schedule sent to them; and if he refused to read the said schedule, or said more or less than was contained therein, he was to be committed to prison p. 41—42

*Ibid.*—A copy of the schedule alluded to in the preceding letter p. 43—45

*20th July, 24 Hen. VI.* 1446.—Instructions issued to the commissioners who were appointed to borrow money in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Herts;—whereunto is annexed a letter of credence in their favour - - - - - - - - p. 46—49

— *July, 24 Hen. VI.* 1446.—*Minutes of Council.* Memoranda of complaints made by the Mayor and Aldermen of London of impositions committed upon the inhabitants of the city by the wool-packers, wine-gaugers, and wine-drawers, who farmed their offices to "men of litell haveour and valeur;"—of certain games played at Blanke Chapelton;—of the non-payment of the impositions laid by Parlia-

ment on strangers residing in the parish of St. Martin;—and of the undue exercise of the liberties of the Tower. It was advised, that in case the treaty for peace should be prorogued from November until March, a convention should be held on the river between Maunt and Melant:—Sir Thomas Stanley to be commanded to convey Eleanor Cobham to the Isle of Man:—Confirmation to be granted under the great seal to all persons who had wages, fees, or offices for life, by the grant of the Duke of Warwick, during the minority of Anne his daughter and heir:—Wages for three months to be paid to the Bishop of Chichester and Lord Dudley, who were going on an embassy to France:—£100 to be paid to Sir Richard Wydvile for his labour and expenses in going twice to Calais - - p. 50—52

19*th July*, 24 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—*Ibid.* 50 marks to be paid to Michael de Paris, the King's secretary, as a reward for remaining in England since Christmas, and returning home with a message from the King p. 52

20*th July*, 24 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—*Ibid.* The Clerk of the Hanaper to be directed to pay the Bishop of Chichester and Lord Dudley, the ambassadors to France. In reply to Scales and Oldehall, messengers from the Duke of York, the Council stated that it was the King's pleasure that he should have 200 spears, with the bows thereto, to indent at Michaelmas, and to have payment in hand for three months, after the wages of England, and from month to month for the second quarter, after the wages of France. Deliberation was held as to the number of ships to be provided for the King's voyage, and the time when and the place where they should assemble:—Wages for three months to be paid to the Bishop of Chichester and Lord Dudley, the ambassadors to France, and £20 for their shipping;—their instructions were read and passed;—Garter King of Arms, and a pursuivant, were appointed to go with them, and were to be paid as before;—letters to the King's uncle, and "letters of familiarity" to all the captains in Normandy, were to be given to the ambassadors:—The bishops and other ecclesiastics to be treated with to pay their tenths, and persons were to be appointed to raise money, giving assignments for it upon the second grant in Parliament:—The Earl of Ormond was commanded by the Chancellor, in the King's name, under pain of forfeiture, not to go more than forty miles from London, except on a pilgrimage to Canterbury, without the King's permission, and to hold himself in readiness to answer before the King and Council:—The Sheriffs of London, being questioned, stated that they had not demanded scutage from the Genoese this year, and that they were ignorant of the sum due to them for the time during which they had been sheriffs - - - - - p. 52—54

2*nd July*, 24 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—*Ibid.* 10 marks to be paid to Michael de Paris, the King's secretary, who was going to France with the ambassadors p. 54

## 25 HEN. VI. 1446–7.

19*th October*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—Writ to the Keeper of the privy seal, directing him to issue warrants to John Stanley, esquire, serjeant of the armoury, commanding him to provide armour and weapons for John Davy, who had appealed William Catour of London of treason, and had been appointed by the Constable and Marshal of England to do battle with him; and to Sir John Steward and Sir John Astley, knights, Edmund Hampden and Thomas Montgomery, esquires, and Thomas Parker, armourer, to be "intendant and of counsel" to the appellant; and to Sir Thomas Gray, Sir Robert Shotesbroke, John Lovell and John Sharpe, esquires, and to Harman, armourer, to be "intendant and of counsel" to the defendant - - p. 55

16*th November*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—Writ to Philip Treher, fishmonger, of London, commanding him to be intendant and of counsel to John Davy the appellant above mentioned - - - p. 56

14*th December*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—Writ to Master Hugh Payne and John Latimer, commanding them to be intendant and of counsel to William Catour the defendant above mentioned - - p. 57

*November or December*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Ormond, a prisoner in the Tower, who had been accused of treason by Thomas Fitz-Thomas, prior of Kilmain, and was about to do battle with the Prior in Smithfield, giving him licence, and informing him that the Constable of the Tower had been directed to permit him to reside in some place near Smithfield, "for his breathing and more ease against the said day" - - p. 57

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, authorizing him to convey the Earl of Ormond to some place near Smithfield, two days or any shorter time the Earl might wish, before the day of battle p. 58

28*th December*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1446.—Writ, authorizing the payment of £20 by way of reward to Philip Treher, fishmonger, for his attendance and labour as well "in teaching certain points of arms unto the Prior of Kilmain, which late appealed the Earl of Ormond of hault treason, as in teaching and counselling John Davy, which late appealed one John Catour of treason also" - - - - p. 59

19*th March*, 25 *Hen. VI.* 1447.—*Minutes of the Council.* Letters to be written to the King of Scots relative to the keeping of the truce:—The constables and others in Wales to be directed to see to the safeguard of the fortresses there:—The captain of Berwick to go thither for the safeguard thereof:—An answer to be given to the soldiers there "of such things as they ask" in Easter Term next:—Letters to be sent to Bourdeaux, giving the King's assent to the election of the Abbot chosen by the convent of the abbey of Saint Croix, and to the Pope, requesting him to confirm the same, and to revoke all which

he had done in favour of any other person:—The Lords of the Council, and such others as should seem good to the Chancellor, were to be directed to assemble at the beginning of next term, and at such time as the ambassadors of the King's uncle should arrive in England:—A safeguard for three years to be granted to the fellowship of the Hanse Towns:—10 marks to be given to Collar Pursuivant; 100*s.* to the pursuivant of the Duke of Orleans; and 100 crowns to a messenger sent from the King's uncle to the King at Bury:—A commission made to certain persons for repoisage of wool at the staple of Calais to be revoked. These Minutes have the King's initials at the commencement and end - - - p. 60—61

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## 27 Hen. VI. 1448–9.

*30th October*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1448.—Answers given by the King and Council to certain articles delivered by Garter King of Arms on behalf of the Duke of Somerset, lieutenant general of France, and other the King's ambassadors there. As these articles, and the answers thereto, are in English, it is unnecessary to abstract them p. 62—64

*3rd February*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Letter from the King to the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Westmoreland, the Lords Clifford, Greystoke, Dacre, and others, requesting them to remain on the marches of Scotland to prevent the aggressions of the Scotch, instead of attending the Parliament which had been summoned to meet at Westminster on the 12th of that month - - - - - p. 65

*18th February*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Petition to the King from William Strete, a monk of the abbey of Glastonbury, praying for letters of pardon, he having without the King's licence obtained a papal bull, authorizing him to remove from the said abbey, and to be resident in another place of the same Order, or in a "harder Order," to the intent the more devoutly to serve and please Almighty God:—which was granted - - - - - - p. 66

*28th February*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Petition to the King from Dame Margaret Lyle, late prioress of Rowney in Hertfordshire, and her sisters, stating that they could have no priest to pray for the King's health and prosperity, "but if thei wold have a yonge preste, the which were not covenable for him, or ellys askyn so moche and grete salary that it is importable for them to bere;" that friar John Tyvnham, "the which is a good prechour, and is ther goostly fader and of good conversation," was desirous of doing divine service there; and praying that letters of privy seal might be directed to Thomas Rodenore, doctor and provincial minister, "he to amytte the foresaid

frere John Tyvnham his lettre of obedience to be redy and entendaunt to your said besechers, and to the said house of Rowney" p. 67

17*th March*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Instructions (in English) issued to William Pirton, esquire, lieutenant of Guisnes, and Edward Grimston, esquire, the commissioners who were appointed to treat with the Duchess of Burgundy respecting commercial intercourse p. 69—73

18*th March*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Writ to the Chancellor, commanding him to issue letters patent for the payment of 500 marks of the tenths and fifteenths next to be granted by the commons and clergy to William Cantelowe, who had paid that sum to the Bastard of Saint Paul as a compensation for "appatisementes," which had been taken by the garrison of Crotoy in contravention of the truce between the King and the Duchess of Burgundy - - - p. 73

11*th June*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London, charging them to issue a proclamation forbidding all persons to molest the subjects of the Duke of Burgundy residing in London and the suburbs thereof, they having been, by reason of reports which had been circulated, of the evil intentions of the Duke towards Calais, "trowbled, spoyled, and undewly vexed, hurt, and cruelly entreted dayly, aswel by souldiours going towardes the said towne for the defence of the same, as other people" - - - p. 74

2*nd July*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Petition to the King from William bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, stating, that there were in the county and city of Chester many adulterers, fornicators, and other misdoers, whom his officers dare not correct on account of the maintenance which they had of "mighty men" within the said county; and praying for power to cite persons residing within the said shire into any other places of his diocese, in all causes and matters concerning the law of holy church - - - - - - p. 75

30*th July*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Instructions issued to John Lord Dudley and Doctor Thomas Kent, clerk of the Council, the ambassadors appointed to treat with the Duchess of Burgundy for reformation of attempts against the truce, and respecting commercial intercourse. As these instructions are in English it is unnecessary to notice them more fully - - - - - - p. 76—85

18*th August*, 27 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—*Ordinances of the King.* The Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer to receive from the executors of Cardinal Beaufort such of the King's jewels as he had in pledge for £2,040, to make an assignment to them of that sum upon the first part of the half disme granted to the King in the last Convocation, and to deliver the said jewels to Reynold abbot of Gloucester, and Thomas Mansell, esquire, in pledge for as great a sum as they would lend thereon:—Assignments to be made upon the fifteenth and tenth granted in the last Parliament and Convocation for the payment of £100 to the Archbishop of Canterbury, £1,000 to the Duke of Suffolk, and £500

to the Lord Privy Seal, which sums they had lent in money, jewels, and plate, in aid of setting forth the armies under Lord Powis, Lord Zouche's son, and Sir Robert Veer. This Ordinance is signed with the King's "own hand" - - - - p. 86

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## 28 HEN. VI. 1449–50.

16*th November*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Petition to the King from Lord Beauchamp, master of the horse, praying that the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer might be directed to account with him as well for all sums of money received by him since the 15th of February, as of all horses, saddles, bridles, and other harness bought by him, of horses presented by the King to different persons, and delivered by Lord Beauchamp to the almoner, of horses which died of the murrain, and of all other expenses relative to his office: which was granted - - - - p. 87

28*th November*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Warrant for the payment of £24 to the Dean of St. Paul's, who had performed the duty of keeper of the privy seal during the absence of the Bishop of Chichester on a treaty with the ambassadors of Scotland, at Durham, at the rate of 20*s.* per diem - - - - - - p. 89

4*th December*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1449.—Warrant for the payment or assignment of £1,200 to Richard Duke of York, who, by indenture dated on the 30th July, a° 27 (1449), was retained as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, for ten years, at the rate of 4,000 marks for the first, and 2,000 marks for every subsequent year - - - p. 89

11*th February*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of five marks to John Abery, who had brought tidings from the Duke of Somerset and the Earl of Shrewsbury - - - p. 90

17*th February, apparently in the* 28*th Hen. VI.* 1450.—Writ to the mayors, bailiffs, and inhabitants of Canterbury, Maidstone, Colchester, Sandwich, Oxford, Winchelsea, and Sudbury, referring to letters which had been sent to them, and which had been transmitted by them to the King, whereby it appeared that attempts were made to raise assemblies and gatherings of the King's subjects, in defiance of his proclamations and laws, and commanding them to give no faith or credence to the said letters, and to suffer no such gatherings or assemblies to be held amongst them - - - p. 90—92

9*th May*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of 20*s.* to Thomas Kent, doctor of laws, "clerk of our council" in oure ambassiate, as well to oure towne of Calais for to mete with th'ambassatours of the Duk of Borgoigne for reparation of attemptats, as unto tharchbisshop of Cologne for suche matiers as we have charged him with in yat partie" - - - - - p. 92

17*th May*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Letter from the King to Master Andrew

Holes, keeper of the privy seal, commanding him to issue a warrant for the payment, to Richard duke of York, of 4,700 marks, due to him as Lieutenant of Ireland, and £6,000, being the arrear of an annuity payable to him in the ports of London and Hull and at the Exchequer - - - - - - - - p. 92

*23rd June*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of £46 13*s.* to Thomas Vaughan, esquire, master of the ordnance, for "certain stuff of ordnance," a list of which is annexed, purveyed by him, and brought with the King into the field on the 20th of June - p. 94

*30th June*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of £100 for victualling the Tower, and for other stuff necessary for the safeguard thereof - - - - - - - - p. 95

*1st July*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Letters patent appointing Sir Thomas Stanley and Sir Thomas Harrington commissioners of array in the counties of Chester and Lancaster - - - - - - p. 95

*12th July*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Letters patent whereby the Treasurer of England, Sir Thomas Tyrell, Richard Waller, esquire, and the Chamberlains of the Exchequer, were empowered to seize, to the King's use, all goods, chattels, jewels, and sums of money which he who called himself John Mortimer, and his adherents in the county of Kent, took and carried away with them; and to expend such portion thereof as to them should seem fit, for the advantage of the King and of his realm, especially in taking the said John Mortimer and his adherents - - - - - - - - - - p. 96

*14th July*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Writ to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, commanding them to use their utmost exertions in seizing "alle suche goodes as that fals traytour oon callyng him self John Mortymer late brought in to oure towne of Rochester, or that in any wyse belonged unto him, be it gold, silver in coyne or plate, clothes of gold, arras, or any other good what ever it be," and to employ the same for the advantage of the King and of his realm p. 97

*17th July*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of £10 to Master Andrew Hooles, keeper of the privy seal, for his expenses incurred in travelling into Sussex and Kent, for the purpose of speaking "with him that called himself Capitain of Kent;" and £10 for the conveyance of certain letters of credence from the Council to the King - - - - - - - p. 97

*18th July*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of the expenses of the commissioners who went to Rochester "to arreste certain goodes yat were late in ye governaunce of oon John Mortimer, traitoure, callyng himself Capitaigne of Kent" - - - p. 98

*Ibid.*—Warrant for the delivery of six horses, "yat late that traitour, calling him capitaigne of Kent, hadde," to Master Andrew Holes, keeper of the privy seal, who was about to make a journey in the King's service - - - - - - - - p. 99

*24th August*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of 500 marks to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the other executors of Lord Fanhope, for a collar called "Ikylford Collar," which had been pledged to them for that sum, and which had, at the King's request, been surrendered for the Queen's coronation - - - p. 99

*25th August*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of 100*s.* to Artois King of Arms of the Duchess of Burgundy, who had brought letters from her to the King - - - - p. 100

*Ibid.*—Warrant to the Keeper of the great wardrobe for the delivery of twenty yards of fine black cloth to Gerard Boot, a monk of the Charterhouse, the confessor of the Queen of Scotland, who had, as he asserted, been robbed by the King's subjects on his voyage from Scotland to Flanders - - - - - p. 100

*Ibid.*—Warrant for the delivery of £40 out "of the goodes that that fals traitour John Cade, calling him Mortymer," brought to Rochester, to the bailiffs of that city, for the construction of the gate thereof next towards Canterbury - - - - - p. 101

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## 29 Hen. VI. 1450–1.

*3rd October*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Warrant for the payment of £40 to Edmund Duke of Somerset, who took in the county of Kent "a risare ayenst oure pees, oon John Smyth, that called himself Capitaigne of Kent," and 20 marks daily to the said Duke, who was going again into Kent, "to see and ordeigne that good rest and pees be among oure people there, and to chastise ther the contrarie labourers therof" - - - - - - p. 101

*12th October*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, commanding them to stay the proceedings which they had adopted against William de la Barre, administrator of the goods and chattels of Louis late administrator of the Bishoprick of Ely, for the recovery of a horse with a saddle and bridle, a hat, a cloak, a ring, a cup, a lavour, and a mute of hounds, which belonged to the said Louis, "by right and custume of olde tyme hadde and used perteignyng," to the King, the said William having long since paid the same - - - - - - p. 102

*23rd December*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Writ to the Keeper of the privy seal, stating that Hugh Forde, a servant of Lord Scales, had been committed to prison during the sitting of Parliament, and that the King, being willing that the privileges of Parliament should be maintained, commanded him to issue a warrant to the Constable and Marshal of England for the release of the said Forde - p. 103

*25th January*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, commanding them not to surcease for making any

process, or to abstain from proceeding to judgment, in consequence of any letters or warrant which had been or might afterwards be directed to them by the King, except such only as passed by the advice of the Council - - - - - - p. 104

*6th May*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Warrant for the payment of 100*s.* to Clarenceaux King of Arms, who was going into Scotland with letters of safe conduct for the Scotch ambassadors, who were to meet the King's commissioners at Newcastle, for the reparation of attempts against the truce - - - - - - p 104

*20th May*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—An Indenture, containing a list of jewels which were delivered by John Powtrell to John Wynn, citizen and jeweller of London, by command of the Lords of the Council p. 105—107

*28th June*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Petition to the King from Thomas Canynges and William Hulyn, late Sheriffs of London, praying that allowance might be made to them in their account of the expenses which they had incurred in sending the quarters of various persons whose names are mentioned, one of whom was Mortimer the "Captain of Kent" who had been executed for treason, to Chichester, Rochester, Colchester, Canterbury, Norwich, Stamford, Coventry, Newbury, Winchester, Blackheath, Norwich, Salisbury, and Gloucester, and in affixing the heads of several traitors on London Bridge - - - - - - p. 107—109

*5th July*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Warrant for the payment of 100*s.* to Snowden Herald who had brought letters from the King of Scotland p. 109

*24th July*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Warrant for the delivery of a bond of William de Harcourt earl of Tankervill for 6,000 crowns, being a portion of the security for the ransom of the Duke of Orleans, to Sir Henry Redford, a prisoner in France, to enable him to pay his ransom - - - - - - p. 109

*2nd August*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Writ to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, commanding them to send various muniments therein mentioned, relating to truces with Burgundy and to the affairs of France, to the King and his Council at Canterbury p. 110

*10th August*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—Warrant for the payment to John Lord Beauchamp of £39, which he had advanced for the payment of the shipping employed in conveying men-at-arms and archers to Calais. Annexed is a list of the vessels, with the number of sailors in each - - - - - - - p. 112

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## 30 HEN. VI. 1451–2.

*15th February*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Warrant to the Keeper of the privy seal, commanding him to issue letters directing the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer to grant a discharge to John

Poutrell of certain jewels, which, by virtue of letters patent dated on the 15th of May, a° 29, had been delivered by him to John Wynne, citizen and jeweller of London, for the King's use, which jewels the said John Poutrell had received as part of the security for the repayment of £600, which he had lent to the King on the 3rd of February, a° 28 - - - - - p. 114—116

*17th February*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Letter from the King to Lord Cobham, who had neglected to attend a Council whereto he had been summoned, and peremptorily commanding him, under pain of the King's displeasure, to appear before him forthwith, and to perform such service as befitted a true liegeman - - - p. 116

*8th March*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Warrant for granting licence to the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle-upon-Tyne to export "shorling lamb's skins and calves skins" grown within the counties of Northumberland, Westmoreland, and Cumberland, and the bishoprick of Durham, to Bruges and Middleburgh, for three years p. 117—119

*14th March*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Letter from the King to Lord Clifford, thanking him for his services; informing him that it was the intention of the Adversary of France to besiege Calais and other places in the marches there, and afterwards to invade England; for the prevention of which the King was about to raise an army, had appointed the Earl of Shrewsbury to have the command thereof upon the sea, and had ordered the Grace de Dieu and other ships lying in the Thames and at Sandwich and Winchilsea to be in readiness; requesting him to use his utmost endeavours to induce owners of ships, knights, esquires, and others, to render service herein, and to conduct, with all possible speed, such ships and men as should be arrested, to the Downs of Sandwich or to the Camber p. 119—122

*Ibid.*—Copy of letters of credence in favour of Lord Clifford, alluded to in the preceding letter - - - - - p. 122

*22nd March*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Letter from the King to Lord Clifford, enclosing instructions for the performance of the duties entrusted to him by letter dated on the 14th of the same month, and urging the speedy execution thereof - - - - - p. 123

*Ibid.*—Instructions alluded to in the preceding letter - - p. 124

*4th May*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Letter from the King to Lord Poynings warden of the East Marches towards Scotland, Sir Robert Ogle, lieutenant of Tyndale, John Heron of Ford, lieutenant of Redesdale, and Ralph Grey, lieutenant of Roxburgh, referring to violations o the truce by the followers of the Earl of Douglas, and of reprisals which had been made by the English, and commanding them to cause the truce to be strictly observed - - - p. 125.

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Lord Poynings, informing him that his letters to the Chancellor, notifying to him the violation of the truce

with Scotland, had been submitted to the Council, and that instructions had been issued to the persons therein named - p. 126

21*st May*, 30 *Hen. VI.* 1452.—Petition to the King from Robert Poynings, praying that writs of supersedeas might be directed to the escheators of Sussex and Kent, who, by virtue of an exigend of treason which had been awarded against him before the justices of oyer and terminer in the county of Kent, whilst he was a prisoner in the Tower, had seized all his goods and chattels:—which was granted - - - - - - - - p. 127

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## 31 HEN. VI. 1452–3.

11*th May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Memorandum, stating that on this day, in a Court holden at Whitehall by the lieutenant of the Constable of England, John Lyalton appealed Robert Norreys of high treason; that the 25th of the same month was appointed for them to do battle in Smithfield; that they should fight with glaive, short sword, dagger, and axe, instead of long sword; that council, who are named, were assigned to them; that it was therefore necessary that the sheriffs of London should be directed to gravel and sand the place, to erect a scaffold for the King, and to make lists and barriers for the battle; and that the serjeant of the King's armoury should be commanded to provide armour and weapons for the combatants - - - - - - - - p. 129

16*th May, apparently* 31*st Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Sir Thomas Stanley and Sir Thomas Harington, informing them that the Duke of Exeter, Lord Egremont, and others, had made great assemblies and gatherings of the people, that the Duke of York had been appointed to suppress the same, and commanding them to assist him therein - - - - - - p. 130

*Between the* 11*th and* 25*th May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Petition to the King from John Lyalton, who had appealed Robert Norreys of treason, praying that letters of privy seal might be issued for carrying into effect the ordinances which had been made in the Court of the Constable of England:—(*Vide* the memorandum of the 11th May) p. 132

*On or about* 23*rd May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—*Minutes of the Council.* The sheriffs of London to be directed to make a scaffold for the King, and lists and barriers, and to gravel and sand the ground in Smithfield; armour and weapons to be delivered by the Serjeant of the King's arms to John Lyalton, the appellant; and Thomas Bee, painter, to be one of his council - - - - p. 133

23*rd May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Sir John Asteley,

knight, and Thomas Montgomery, esquire, appointing them to be of council to John Lyalton, the appellant - - - p. 134

*24th May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter of similar import from the King to Thomas Bee, painter - - - - p. 134

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Jenkyn Stanley, serjeant of arms, commanding him to deliver arms and weapons to the appellant p. 135

*Ibid.*—Writ to the Sheriffs of London, commanding them to prepare barriers and lists in West Smithfield, to have the same well gravelled and sanded, and also to erect a scaffold - - p. 135

*29th May*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Petition to the King from John Lyalton, the appellant, praying for a grant of money to enable him to purchase necessaries for the ensuing battle, and that Clampard the smith might be commanded to deliver weapons to him:—Five marks were granted to him - - - - - p. 136

*22nd June*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Petition to the King from Robert Norreys, the defendant, to the same effect (*mutatis mutandis*) as that from Lyalton, the appellant, dated between the 11th and 25th of May - - - - - - p. 137

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Sir Hugh John and others, appointing them to be of council to Robert Norreys, the defendant - p. 138

*Ibid.*—Memorandum containing the names of those who were appointed to be of council to the appellant and defendant in the above-mentioned appeal - - - - - p. 139

*23rd June*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Petition to the King from John Lyalton, the appellant, praying for a tent or pavilion for the day of battle, and that Clampard the smith might be commanded to deliver to him such weapons as were necessary - - - p. 139

*7th June*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Lord Egremont, peremptorily commanding him to appear before the Council with all haste possible - - - - p. 140

*26th June*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter to the same, rebuking him for his non-compliance with the various mandates which he had received to appear before the Council, and commanding him to attend them in all haste, and in the meantime to keep the peace towards all the King's subjects - - - - - p. 141

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Sir John Neville, referring to disputes between him and Lord Egremont, which had caused great trouble and vexation to the King's country and subjects, commanding him to appear before the Council, and in the meantime to keep the peace - - - - - - p. 141

*11th July*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Lord Grey of Rugemont, commanding him to appear before the Council - p. 142

*20th July*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to some person whose name is illegible, commanding him either to send to the Treasurer, by the bearer, the 200 marks which he had promised to

lend for the defence of Guienne, or to appear before the Council in all possible haste - - - - - p. 143

*21st July*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Francis Foscari Duke of Venice, regretting that any dispute should have arisen between the Duke and the Grand Master of the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem at Rhodes, stating, that as he (the King) and his progenitors were amongst the chief founders of the Order, it behoved him to provide for their peace, and urging the Duke to dismiss from his mind all animosity - - - - - p. 144—146

*25th July*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Lord Fauconberg, desiring him to certify the Chancellor of an agreement which had been made between himself and the Earl of Salisbury, whereby it was stipulated that the former should take two thirds of the customs in the port of Newcastle, until he had received 1,000 marks, which had been assigned to him in part payment of £1,000 yearly for the keeping of Roxburgh Castle, and that the Earl should have the other third part - - - - p. 146

*27th July*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Salisbury, commanding him to use his utmost endeavours to put down such "great assemblies and riotous gatherings of people" as had been made in the shire wherein he dwelt by his son Sir John Neville and others, and also to be obedient to Sir William Lucy and the other commissioners who were sent thither by the King:—A similar letter was addressed to the Earl of Northumberland, relative to his son Lord Egremont - - - - p. 147

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Lord Egremont and Sir John Neville, son of the Earl of Salisbury, commanding them to keep the peace, and to obey Sir William Lucy and the other commissioners who were appointed for that purpose - - - p. 148

*Ibid.*—A similar letter (*mutatis mutandis*) to Sir John Conyers, Sir James Pickering, and others - - - - - p. 149

*Ibid.*—Another letter on the same subject, but to whom directed does not appear - - - - - - p. 150

*6th August*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the mayors and customers of Dartmouth, Plymouth, and Fowey, requesting them to urge the owners and masters of ships to be ready with their vessels by the feast of St. Bartholomew at the latest to convey the army which was about to be sent into Guienne:—Similar letters were addressed to the mayors and customers of Lynne and Orwell, who were also to charge the owners and masters of vessels bound from those ports to Bourdeaux to assemble at Sandwich or Southampton by the said feast - - - - - - p. 151

*7th August*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Mayor of London, directing him to convene the merchants and citizens, to whom a quantity of alum, to the amount of £8,000, which had been purchased from divers merchants of Jena, had been sold by the

King, with licence to resell the same with an increase of 2*s.* on the pound, and to induce them to lend the said increase to the King, for the purpose of raising an army for the defence of Guienne, they receiving assignments for the same upon the fifteenth, payable at Midsummer following - - - - p. 152—154

10*th August*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Sir Ralph Percy, Richard Percy, Sir John Penyngton, and others, commanding them to keep the peace and to obey Sir William Lucy and the other commissioners appointed for that purpose - - p. 154

11*th August*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Mayors and Sheriffs of Bristol and Hull, stating that the army which had been raised for the defence of Guienne would shortly be in readiness; that the King's adversaries were endeavouring to assemble a great navy in the river Gironde to prevent the passage of the said army, and directing them to make proclamation commanding the masters and mariners and others who were disposed to proceed to said duchy to assemble at Falmouth with their ships on the 27th of the present month, for the purpose of being protected by the army on their voyage - - - - - p. 155

14*th August*, 31 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Mayor of Southampton and others, authorizing them to weigh and sell, for the equipment of the army to Guienne, all such pieces of tin as had been seized in the said town by the King's command - p. 156

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## 32 Hen. VI. 1453–4.

8*th October, apparently in 32nd Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Westmoreland and the Bishop of Durham, thanking them for their diligence in repressing such unlawful gatherings as had been made in the country wherein they dwelt, and praying for a continuance of their exertions - - - - p. 158.

*Ibid.*—A similar letter to the Archbishop of York - - p. 159

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to the Earls of Salisbury and Northumberland, reminding them that as Commissioners of the Peace in the country wherein they dwelt, and as Lords of the Council, it behoved them to keep the peace and the King's laws, notwithstanding which, and in defiance of the King's letters of privy seal, they had taken upon them "to make the greatest assembly of our liegemen, and thereto have appointed time and place, that ever was made in this our land at any time that man can think;" threatening that in case any thing should be done by them or by others whereby any of the King's lieges should perish, they should be "so chastised that both ye and they and all others our subjects shall have matter and cause to eschew to attempt any thing like hereafter" - 159—161

*8th October, apparently in 32nd Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Lord Egremont, reminding him that he had not long ago been raised to the rank of a baron, not for any great service that he had done, but for the "trust and trowing" which the King had of the good service which he should do in time to come, especially in keeping the peace; notwithstanding which, and in defiance of the King's letters of the 27th of July, commanding him to put down such assemblies and gatherings of people as he had made and arrayed against the peace, he had not only failed so to do, but had multiplied gatherings of people ready to go to the field as it were in time of war, and strictly charging him to discharge such people as he had assembled, to "surcease of such novelries" as he had begun, and to keep the peace p. 161—163

*24th October*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to the Duke of York, desiring him to give credence to such things as should be declared to him on the King's behalf by Sir Thomas Tyrell, and transmitting to him letters of summons to a Great Council. Annexed is a copy of the instructions given to Tyrell, who was to declare to the Duke, that one of the causes which had induced the King to assemble a Great Council was "to set rest and union betwixt the lords of this lande," and that, as it was supposed that a variance existed between him and some others of the lords, the King desired his attendance - - - - p. 163

*6th December*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1453.—*Minutes of the Council.* It was agreed that 500 sacks of the King's wool should be shipped and conveyed to such parts "of the Kings amite" as should seem most expedient, for the purpose of being sold to raise money for the expenses of the King's household - - - - - p. 164

*13th March*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454—.Letter from the King to Francis Foscari Duke of Venice, requesting permission for certain knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, who were about to proceed from England to reinforce the Grand Master of Rhodes against the Turks, who had seized Constantinople, to pass through the Duke's territories p. 165

*15th March*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Minute of the Council.* It was agreed in the Council Chamber at Westminster, during the sitting of Parliament, that a commission should be issued to John Arundell, John Faceby, and William Hatclyff, physicians, and to Robert Wareyn and John Marchall, surgeons, empowering them to administer to the King such medicines and medicinal remedies, in such manner as could be best devised, and according to the directions of the most learned physicians who had written or should afterwards write on the subject - - - - - - p. 166

*30th March and 1st April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Ibid.* It was agreed that the Bishop of Ely should be recommended to the Pope for promotion to the archbishoprick of Canterbury, vacant by the death of John Kemp, the late archbishop; that Master William Gray should be recommended to the see of Ely; and that Master George

Neville, son of the Earl of Salisbury, chancellor of England, in consideration of his blood, virtue, and cunning, should also be recommended for promotion to the next vacant bishoprick - p. 168

1*st April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Writ of privy seal, countersigned by the Council, commanding the Chancellor to issue letters patent granting to Master Thomas Mannyng, one of the King's chaplains, the deanery of the chapel of St. George, within the castle of Windsor p. 169

8*th April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Minute of the Council.* John Goldewell and Walter Hertford, monks of Christ's Church, Canterbury, presented to the Council a petition from the prior and chapter of that house, praying for licence to elect an archbishop in the room of John Kemp, lately deceased:—which was granted - - p. 17

12*th April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Petition to the King from Thomas Colt one of the chamberlains of the Exchequer, praying for his livery of clothing and fur for the feast of Christmas last past, and livery as well for summer as winter, so long as he should occupy the said office:—which was granted - - - - p. 171

15*th April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Minute of the Council.* A dispute relative to the lieutenancy of Ireland having been decided, "so that it was no longer to be doubted who ought to be lieutenant there," it was agreed that an Order of Council which had been made on the 6th of February preceding, forbidding the collectors of the fifteenth and tenth, and of the half fifteenth and tenth, granted in the Parliament at Reading, yet enduring, to pay any sums or tallies assigned for Ireland to any one but the Treasurer of England, should be rescinded, and that the said tallies should be paid according to their purport - - - - - - - - - p. 172

16*th April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Duke of York and several other peers, summoning them to attend a Council at Westminster on the 6th of May next coming, for the purpose of making provision "as well for the restful rule of this our realm inward as for defence thereof outward, and specially for the safegard of our town of Calais and the marches there" - - p. 174

17*th April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Copy of the letters sent by order of the Council to various prelates, ecclesiastics, and peers, a list of whom is annexed, urging them to lend money or to raise men for the defence of Calais - - - - - - p. 175—177

10*th May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Northumberland, commanding him to appear before the Council at Westminster on the 12th of the following month, when provision was to be made for the prevention of such disturbances as had previously occurred on account of the differences between the Earl of Salisbury and Lord Egremont, the Earl of Northumberland's son - p. 178

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Lord Roos, commanding him to appear before the Council at Westminster on the 16th of the present month p. 179

10*th May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter, intended to have been sent from the King to Lord Poynings and Sir Ralph Percy, commanding them to appear before the Council at Westminster on the 2nd of the following month, but which was not forwarded - - - p. 17

*Ibid.*—Letters from the King to the Sheriffs of Derby and Lancashire directing them to deliver letters of privy seal to Sir Nicholas Langford and Walter Blount, Thomas Pilkington, and Piers Legh esquires, commanding them to appear before the Council immediately after the sight thereof - - - - - p. 18(

11*th May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, commanding him to appear before the Council at Westminster on Thursday next ensuing - - - p. 18(

24*th May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, notifying to them the several fines which had been imposed by the Lords of the Council on those bishops, earls, abbots, and others (who are named), who on account of sickness had been unable to attend the Parliament which began at Reading and ended at Westminster, it having been therein provided that such lords as did not attend the said Parliament, from the 14th of February last past until the last day of the same month, should pay unto the King a certain sum; but that those who were prevented by illness should pay such a fine as should be thought reasonable to the Lords of the Council - - - - p. 181—18[illegible]

27*th May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Petition to the Council from John Duke of Norfolk, complaining of the conduct of Thomas Sharnburn sheriff of Suffolk, relative to the election for that county, which was held at Ipswich on Monday after the feast of St. Valentine (February 18th), he having made a return to the effect that he dared not hold the county court on account of the menaces of the servants and tenants of the said Duke, such not being the fact; and praying that the Justices of the Common Pleas might be directed to permit the said servants and tenants to appear and answer by attorney:—which was granted - - - - - p. 183

29*th May*, *apparently in the* 32*nd Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the lords spiritual and temporal, summoning them to attend a Great Council to be held at Westminster on the 25th of the following month, for the purpose of devising measures for the defence of the realm, and of resisting the King's enemies, who had set forth a great army upon the sea, and "daily busy them to pull from us our towne of Calais" - - - - p. 184—187

*Ibid.*—Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, commanding them not to exact from Lord Say a fine of £40, which had been erroneously imposed upon him for non-attendance in the Parliament which began at Westminster and ended at Reading, he having been present therein - - - - - - p. 187

31*st May*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Minute of the Council.* It was agreed,

hat notwithstanding that the Chancellor of that portion of the Duchy of Lancaster which was put in feoffment had been previously commanded to receive no letter of warrant for any thing to be sped by him, unless under the signet of the Eagle, the privy seal should from henceforth be a sufficient warrant to him - - p. 188

*Assigned to the 3rd June, 32 Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, expressing great displeasure at his conduct, some particulars of which are enumerated, commanding him to refrain from the commission of any thing which might lead to a breach of the peace or of the laws, and to appear before the Council at Westminster on the 25th of the month - p. 189

*Ibid.*—Letters of similar import were also addressed to Lord Egremont, Richard Percy, Sir Nicholas Longford, and Thomas Pilkington, and Walter Blount, esquires - - - - p. 190—192

*5th June, apparently in the 32nd Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Abbot of Hulme, informing him that Lord Egremont and others of like disposition made great assemblies of the King's liege people, and issued proclamations to stir them to rebellion and breaking of the laws, and forbidding the abbot, his servants or tenants, to favor, assist, comfort, or help him, "nor none of his or of his opinion whatever they be" - - - p. 193

*Ibid.*—A similar letter to Lord Clifford, who was moreover commanded to render all the assistance in his power to the Duke of York, who by the advice of the Council had been sent to suppress the aforesaid tumults - - - - p. 194

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Walter Durdant of Buckinghamshire, commanding him, under a penalty of £200, to appear before the Council at Westminster on the morrow of the feast of St. John the Baptist next ensuing - - - - - p. 195

32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the mayors, aldermen, and inhabitants of York and Hull, thanking them for their good zeal and love, and for their "wyse, discrete, sadde, and manly beryng oute of their trouthe in withstandyng and puttyng aside the wylfulnesse" of the Duke of Exeter, Lord Egremont, and Richard Percy, and also for the reception which they had given to the Duke of York - - - - p. 195—197

*5th July,* 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Petition to the King and Council from Piers de Merlanes and his fellowship of Gascony, stating that by reason of the loss of the city of Bourdeaux and of the country thereabouts they had come into England to proffer their service for the recovery thereof, and to beseech that some consideration might be had to the services which they rendered before the Earl of Shrewsbury entered that city:—it was agreed that they should have £10 p. 197.

10*th July,* 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Petition to the King from Ralph Lord Cromwell praying that Robert Colynson, a priest, who had falsely slandered him, might be detained in prison until he had made satis-

faction to the petitioner for the damages which he had thereby suffered, and until he had made fine and ransom to the King for the said offence:—which was granted - - - - p. 198

17*th July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Copy of the indenture, signed by the Council, between the King and the Duke of York, as Captain of Calais and of the Tower of Risbank, for seven years - p. 199—206

18*th July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Minute of the Council.* Upon the question, whether the Duke of Somerset, who had been committed to prison on suspicion of treason, should be released on bail or not, the Duke of York proposed that the opinion of the judges should be had, without which he would never consent to his release; and he desired that this declaration might be entered on record, which was accordingly done - - - - - - p. 206

*Ibid.*—Writ to the Chancellor, commanding him to make letters of exemplification of the preceding declaration - - - p. 208

20*th July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Petition to the King from William Neville Lord Fauconberg, praying for licence to surrender Edmund Arblaster, a prisoner, for whom he had become surety to one Blauncheford; the said Edmund not having paid his ransom:—which was granted - - - - - - p. 208

23*rd July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—*Proceeding of the Council.* It was agreed that the Duke of York, Protector of England, should have authority to grant the King's livery of colours to eighty gentlemen, after his discretion; "they to be a feed with no man but the King without his special licence;" the steward, treasurer, comptroller, cofferer, chief clerk, and the avener to be directed to put in execution "the appointments made and ordained for the King's stable, as well in disposing of the horses as persons attending upon the said stable:"—annexed is a copy of "the appointement made by the King by the advice of his Council for the office of the avery, and for his stable" p. 209—214

24*th July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter addressed to the spiritual and temporal peers, summoning them to attend a Great Council at Westminster on the 21st of October following - - p. 214—216

*Ibid.*—Letters written by order of the Council to the Bishop of St. David's, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and several other lords, who disobeyed the summons which they had received to attend a Great Council held at Westminster on the 25th of June preceding, "giving full strange example to others of disobedience," and peremptorily commanding them to appear at the Great Council to be held there on the 21st of October - - - - - p. 216

*Ibid.*—*Minute of the Council.* The Duke of York to be directed to convey the Duke of Exeter to Pomfret Castle, and the Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster to issue a writ to the constable of the castle, commanding him to receive the said Duke - - - p. 217

*Ibid.*—Writ to Sir Brian Stapleton, Sir John Melton, and Sir Thomas

Rampston, commanding them to proceed to Pomfret Castle to await upon and "entende upon the saufgard" of the Duke of Exeter p. 218

*24th or 28th July*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King, signed by the Council, to the Duke of Norfolk, commanding him to appear before the Council on the 28th of October, to prove the accusations which he had made against the Duke of Somerset - p. 218

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## 33 Hen. VI. 1454–5.

*13th November*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Ordinances for the regulation of the King's household - - - - p. 220—233

*3rd February, apparently in the 33rd Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, commanding him, on account of certain riots and offences by him committed, to proceed to Wallingford Castle, so as to be there by the Tuesday following at the latest p. 234

*14th May*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letters of credence for, and instructions issued to, the commissioners who were appointed to raise money for the defence of Calais:—annexed is a list of the commissioners for the different counties - - - - p. 234—244

*Apparently in June*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to various Peers, informing them of his intention to hold a Parliament on the 9th of the ensuing month, and commanding them to attend the same, "mesurably accompaignied accordyng to their estate, with their houshold mayney and noon otherwise" - - p. 244

*26th June*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—*Minute of the Council*, stating that the Earl of Worcester had been directed to proceed to Wallingford Castle to take charge of the Duke of Exeter, who was confined there; which he had not done, because the Duchess of Suffolk was Constable of the Castle; that he had therefore been discharged from the performance of that duty, and had been commanded to appear before the King; that information thereof had been given to the Duchess, who was at the same time enjoined to keep the Duke of Exeter in sure custody - - - - - p. 245

*5th July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Sheriff of Kent, stating that he had been informed that "busy labour" was made by certain persons in that county for the choosing of Knights for the Parliament to be holden on the 9th of the present month, and commanding him to make proclamation at the time of the election that it was the King's will that the "shire have their free election according to his laws and ordinances" - - - p. 246

*9th July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Westmoreland, and the Lords Fitz Hugh and Scrope, expressing the "great comfort" which he had derived from the letters sent by them from Newcastle, declaring the "manly

resisting" which had been made to the King's enemies by the inhabitants of Berwick; thanking them for their exertions, and excusing the Earl of Northumberland from attending the Parliament - p. 247

*9th July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Northumberland, thanking him for his "devoir, diligence, labour, and pain, as well in victualling the town and castle of Berwick, as in resisting the malice of the King's enemies," and excusing his attendance in Parliament - - - - - p. 248

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Sir John Heron of Ford, and to Robert Manners, esquire, returning thanks to them for their "faith, truth, diligence, and manhood, in resistence of his enemies, and safeguard of the town and castle of Berwick" - - - - p. 249

*12th July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to Sir John Gresley and Roger Vernon, who had riotously assembled the King's subjects against his peace, commanding them to appear before the Council at Westminster on the 21st of the present month - p. 250

*Ibid.*—Letter from the King to Nicholas Gresley, alluding to the riotous assemblies which had been made by his kinsmen and others, and commanding him to appear before the Council - - p. 251

*23rd July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to William Say, bailiff of Sandwich, and others, commanding them to deliver to the Earl of Salisbury, as a gift from the King, "a bicoket" garnished and gilt, two "saletts" garnished and not gilt, two pair of "briganders" covered with velvet set with gilt nails, a gown of velvet, and all other harness, being in their custody, which had been forfeited by the rebellion of Lord Camoys - - - - p. 251

*4th August*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, commanding them to make allowance to William Say, in his account, of the articles above mentioned - - p. 252

*25th July*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Duchess of Burgundy, complaining that, in contravention of the treaties existing between the two countries, a knight named Pierre de Prennes had seized at Burburgh one Thomas Wymark, the agent of the mayor of the staple at Calais, and had imprisoned him until he surrendered such goods, gold, silver, letters, bonds, and other things as he had with him; and demanding restitution thereof - - - p. 253

*2nd August*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King from John Shipward, praying for permission to export to Gascony or Spain, in a vessel of 300 tons burthen, goods and merchandize not pertaining to the staple of Calais, and to import others in lieu of them:—which was granted - - - - - p. 254

*6th August*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King from the clerks of his chapel, stating that their number was less than was wont; praying that there might be at least twenty-four "singing men;" that William Stevenys might continue to say daily mass of our Lady, to read the gospel, and keep the vestiary; and that a person might be appointed to read the epistle:—which was granted - - p. 256

*8th August*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to Alphonso King of Portugal, acknowledging the receipt of his letters, which requested that attempts against the treaties might be reformed, the breakers thereof punished, and measures adopted for the prevention thereof in future; stating that persons had been appointed to confer thereon with the Portuguese Ambassadors; that commissions and proclamations for that purpose had been issued, and that nothing which lay in the King's power to preserve peace should be neglected - p. 257

*9th August*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King from Sir Thomas Lomley, constable of Scarborough Castle, praying for permission to surrender the letters patent by which he held that office "in like manner and form as Ralph Babthorp had it," and that others might be issued, granting to him the custody of the castle with all profits thereto belonging to the value of £20 yearly, a robe yearly at the great wardrobe, 25 marks yearly out of the farm of the town of Scarborough, and 25 marks out of the issues of the county of York; on condition that he should annually expend 40 marks thereof in repairing the castle:—which was granted - - - p. 259

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## 34 Hen. VI. 1455-6.

*10th November*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—*Minute of the Council*, stating, that whereas the King could not in person be present at the Parliament to be holden at Westminster on the 12th of the present month, he had issued a commission empowering Richard Duke of York to hold the said Parliament, and to do therein in the King's name all such things as were to be done for the good rule and government of the realm, and also by assent of Council to end and dissolve the said Parliament - - - - - - p. 261

*19th November*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King and Council from Sir John Tempest, knight, who had been appointed Sheriff of Lincolnshire, praying that he might hold his office by "approwment," and not be charged in his account "with the hoole extente of the said shire:"—which was granted - - - - p. 263

*4th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Pope, stating, that although his Majesty had recommended and his Holiness had promoted Master John Hals to the vacant see of Exeter, there were many reasons why that appointment should be cancelled, especially as at the instance of the princes, peers, nobles, and all the commonalty of the realm he had promised to confer the next vacant see on George Nevill, son of the Earl of Salisbury, which promise he had, at the time of Hals's appointment, forgotten; that the

canons of Exeter had unanimously elected Nevill as their pastor, and Hals had surrendered his claim: he therefore prays the Pope to confirm the election - - - - p. 265—267

*5th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the Earls of Arundel and Wiltshire, the Lords Fitzwarine and St. Amand, and other lords, knights, and esquires, informing them that he had sent the Duke of York into Devonshire for the purpose of quelling the disturbances in that county, and commanding them to render him all the aid in their power - - - - p. 267—270

*9th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to Hugh Louther, esquire, informing him that he having been appointed sheriff of Cumberland, a dedimus potestatem had been issued to Sir Thomas Nevill to receive his oath, and charging him under a penalty of £2,000 to undertake the office - - - p. 271

*10th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King and Council from John Stanhope, esquire, late sheriff of the counties of Nottingham and Derby, praying that an allowance of £100 might be made to him in his account, in consideration of the expenses which he had incurred in assembling people to support the Justices of Oyer and Terminer at the sessions at Chesterfield and Derby; in "coming with much people to hold the shires to resist such people as was not well disposed; in riding with much people in executing of his office, because the people is wild;" and in raising and conducting to Doncaster 300 persons for the rescue of Berwick:—£80 were allowed to him p. 272

*11th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—A commission signed by the Council empowering the Duke of York to prorogue the Parliament from the 13th of December to the 14th of January, and on that day and afterwards to hold the same, and to do therein, in the King's name, all things which were to be done for the good rule and government of the realm, and to end and dissolve it - - - p. 274

*13th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to the garrison of Calais, relative to their payment - - - p. 276—279

*15th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Letter from the King to various lords spiritual and temporal who had neglected to attend the present Parliament, whereto they had been summoned, charging them to appear at Westminster on the 14th of January next - p. 279—282

*16th December*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Petition to the King and Council from Alianora Duchess of Somerset, praying for a grant of £200 yearly for the maintenance of Henry, son and heir of Edmund the late Duke, and also for an assignment of dower out of his lands:—which was granted - - - - p. 282—285

*24th January*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—Grant, signed by the Council, to Master George Nevill, of the custody of the Hospital of St. Leonard in the City of York, which had recently been surrendered by William Scrope, clerk. - - - - p. 285

30*th January*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—Letter signed by Lord Stanley, the chamberlain, stating that the King having received the fealty of William, son and heir of Sir John Stapleton, had restored to him his lands, and requesting some person, whose name does not appear, to present him to the King for the purpose of doing his homage - p. 286

8*th June*, 34 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—Letter from the King to several knights and esquires in Kent, informing them that he had issued a commission of oyer and terminer to certain lords, judges, and others, to hold a session at Maidstone for the punishment of disturbers of the peace, and desiring them to give all favour and assistance to the said Commissioners - - - - - - p. 287

## 35 Hen. VI. 1456-7.

*Between the 27th September and 1st October*, 35 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—Letter from Lord Stanley, the Chamberlain, to the Chancellor, informing him that the Abbot of Grimsby had done his fealty and homage, and that it was the King's will that his temporalities should be restored p. 290

## 36 Hen. VI. 1457-8.

29*th November*, 36 *Hen. VI.* 1457.—Letter from the King to the lords spiritual and temporal, informing them that on account of matters of great weight he had resolved to continue his Great Council on the 27th of January next coming, and commanding them to give their attendance on that day - - - p. 290—293

14*th February*, 36 *Hen. VI.* 1458.—Letter from the King to the Earl of Arundel, commanding him to attend the Great Council at Westminster in all haste - - - - p. 293

4*th March*, 36 *Hen. VI.* 1458.—*Minute of the Council.* It was agreed that 500*l.* should be paid to the Earl of Warwick, for the keeping of the sea, out of the money arising from the general pardon last granted: —annexed is a warrant to the keeper of the hanaper in Chancery for the payment thereof - - - - - p. 294

6*th August*, 36 *Hen. VI.* 1458.—Letter from the King to the Chancellor, commanding him to issue letters patent to exonerate Thomas Havill of Oxford, brewer, from serving on assizes, juries, inquisitions, &c., and from filling the offices of sheriff, escheator, coroner, or collector of fifteenths, taxes, or subsidies - - - p. 295

*26th August*, 36 *Hen. VI.* 1458.—Letter from the King to several lords spiritual and temporal, charging them to attend at the palace of Westminster on the 10th of October next, to give their advice in such matters as should be treated of in the Council there - p. 297

## 37 HEN. VI. 1458–59.

*th February*, 37 *Hen. VI.* 1459.—Petition to the King from Ralph Lord Sudeley and John Lord Stourton, praying for payment of the wages due to them for keeping the town and marches of Calais - p. 297

*0th February, apparently in the 37th Hen. VI.* 1459.—General summons to the Lords of Parliament to attend a Great Council to be held at Westminster on the 2nd of April next coming, for the purpose of appointing an embassy to a solemn council limited by the Pope to begin on the 1st of June, "for the defence of our faith against the Turks and other mescreante" - p. 298

*th June*, 37 *Hen. VI.* 1459.—Letter from the King to the Grand Master of Rhodes, refusing permission for the Prior of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem to attend a chapter of the order - p. 299

*id.*—Letter from the King to the Chancellor of Rhodes, requesting him to desire the Grand Master to refrain from commanding the attendance of the Prior of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem p. 300

*id.*—Letter from the King to Sir John Langstrothere and other Englishmen in the convent at Rhodes, commanding them to inform the Grand Master and others of the King's determination not to allow the Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem to attend the general chapter - p. 301

5*th July*, 37 *Hen. VI.* 1459.—Warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, for the payment of the English ambassadors who attended the diet at Mantua - p. 302

## 38 HEN. VI. 1459–60.

*9th August*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Writ to the keeper of the Privy Seal, commanding him to issue letters directing the constables of Beaumauris, Conway, Flint, Hawardin, Holt, and Ruthin, to provide for the security of those places:—to the Earl of Pembroke, assuring him of the King's belief in the loyalty of the Duke of York, and com-

manding him to deliver Denbigh Castle to the Duke's deputy;—and to the Lord Powis to surrender the castle of Montgomery - p. 303

17*th August*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Letter from the King to Sir William Herbert, knight, Walter Devereux and Roger Vaughan, esquires, giving them power to prevent all unlawful assemblies, to arrest all such persons as should in defiance of the King's command attempt to victual or fortify castles, places, and strengths in Wales, and to adopt measures for the safe custody of the said castles until the King should give further directions, - - - - p. 304

22*d August*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Proclamation commanding that Sir John Nevill and Isabel his wife should be re-admitted to the peaceable enjoyment of such manors and lordships as they possessed previously to the last parliament held at Coventry, any act, statute, or ordinance therein passed notwithstanding - - - - - p. 306

## 39 HEN. VI. 1460–1.

11*th November*, 39 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Warrant for the payment of 10*l.* t Master George Holland, who was going abroad on the King's se vice - - - - - p. 30

8*th January*, 39 *Hen. VI.* 1461.—Letters from the King to the Earl Arundel, Lords Cobham, Abergavenny, Dacre, Delawarr, and sever knights, sheriffs, mayors, bailiffs, and other persons, commandin them to raise forces and therewith to join the King in all haste, "fc the resistance of those misruled and outrageous people in the nort parts of this realm," who are, it is said, "coming towards these part to the destruction thereof, of you, and subversion of all our land"

## ACTS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF KING HENRY TH SIXTH, THE EXACT DATES OF THE GREATER PAR OF WHICH ARE NOT ASCERTAINED.

2*th July*, 2 *Hen. VI.* 1424.—Letters patent stating that the King hac by the advice of his Council, ordained that 10,000 marks should b annually raised, for the expenses of his household, from the followin sources, viz. from the Chamberlains of South and North Wales 1,00 marks; from wardships, marriages, and other casualties, 1,000*l.*; fro the keeper and exchange of the mint within the Tower of London an York, 500 marks; from the collectors of the subsidy of 3*s.* on the to and 12*d.* in the pound from aliens in all the ports of England, 2,0C marks; and from the collectors of the subsidies on wools, 5,000 mark

It was also provided that nothing should be paid out of these sources of revenue until the Treasurer had received the said sum of 10,000*l.* p. 311

13*th November*, 16 *Hen. VI.* 1437.—Memorandum stating that on this day the King appointed the members of his Council, who are named, regulated the mode of transacting business in Council, and fixed the salaries which they were respectively to receive - - p. 312—315

27*th February*, 22 *Hen. VI.* 1444.—Warrant for the payment of 40*l.* to John Wenlok, esquire, who was going on an embassy to France p. 315

*Temp. Hen. VI., date uncertain.—Minutes of the Council*, containing advice submitted to the King for his guidance in answering petitions, making grants, issuing letters under the signet, &c. - p. 316—320

13th *January*, 23 *Hen. VI.* 1445.—Letters patent, granting licence to Angelo Tany of Florence to bring into England for sale a "balaice" of 320 carats, weighing two ounces and a quarter, without payment of custom, unless it were sold - - - - p. 321

*Apparently in* 23*rd Hen. VI.* 1444.—Instructions issued to the commissioners who were appointed to borrow money for the expenses of the King's marriage - - - - - - p. 322—325

*Assigned to the* 24*th Hen. VI.* 1445-6.—Petition to the King praying that parchment and other necessaries might be provided "for the writing and making of certain books in your Exchequer," which are specified, "of large and legible hand and in great volumes," the originals being in so small a hand and decayed as to be scarcely legible - - - - - - - p. 325

17*th February*, 26 *Hen. VI.* 1448.—Petition to the King for a warrant to the keeper of the jewels for the delivery of a cup of silver gilt, weighing four pounds eleven ounces and three quarters, to John Say, esquire - - - - - - - p. 326

10*th April, assigned to* 26*th Hen. VI.* 1447-8.—Letter from the King to the bailiff of Great Yarmouth, charging him to bring before the Council on the 20th of the present month Richard Elys, a merchant of that town, who had been arrested by a writ of "capias utlegat'" for a debt due to Sir John Fastalf - - - - p. 326

*Assigned to the* 26*th Hen. VI.* 1447-8.—Writ directed to the keeper of the seal of Chester, forbidding him to interfere with the jurisdiction of the bishop of that see in matters touching the "correction of souls" - - - - - - - p. 327

*Assigned to the* 26*th Hen. VI.* 1447-8.—Petition to the Lord Treasurer from Richard Heynes and Robert Pylton, the King's commissioners (of customs), stating that by the connivance of Robert Pyn, one of the bailiffs of Yarmouth, a quantity of wool and woolfells had been shipped from that port, whereby the King had been defrauded of customs to the amount of 1,000*l.*; that the said Pyn being supported by other misdoers, they could not perform their duties; and praying that he might be cited to appear before the Council, and that Sir

Miles Stapleton and Thomas Fen, the constables of the town, might be commanded to assist them in the execution of their office :—which was granted - - - - - p. 328—330

*Dated 14th July, apparently in the 31st Hen. VI.* 1453.—Letter from the King to Henry Bromflete, Lord Vessy, charging him to send by the bearer the sum of 200 marks, which he had promised to lend towards the support of the army in Guienne - - - - p. 330

*3rd March, 34 Hen. VI.* 1455-6.—*Minutes of Council* relative to the appointment of a sheriff for the county of Lincoln - - p. 331

*27th January, apparently in the 35th Hen. VI.* 1457.—Letter from the King to the lords spiritual and temporal, summoning them to attend a Great Council at Coventry on the 14th of February following p. 333

*17th November, assigned to the 32nd Hen. VI.* 1454.—Letter from the King to the Chancellor of the University and Mayor of the town of Cambridge, charging them to prevent the scholars or commonalty from interfering in the ensuing election of knights of the shire p. 335

*15th April, temp. Hen. VI.*—Letter from the King to Lord Welles, charging him to keep the peace towards William Tailbois - p. 336

*Temp. Hen. VI.*—Memoranda submitted to the King by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, to whom his Majesty had referred certain letters lately received from the Emperor on the subject of the church; who was to suggest what answer should be returned thereto - - - - - p. 337—339

*16th April, temp. Hen. VI.*—Letter from the King to the keeper of the privy seal, commanding him to summon the knights and esquires therein named to attend the Council on the 21st of May following p. 339—342

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## MEMORANDA OF THE DELIVERY OF THE GREAT SEAL DURING THE REIGN OF KING HENRY THE SIXTH.

*28th September, 1 Hen. VI.* 1422.—Memorandum of the surrender of the Great Seal of gold by Thomas Bishop of Durham, Chancellor of England, to the King at Windsor Castle, and of the delivery thereof by the Duke of Gloucester to Simon Gaunstede, keeper of the Rolls of Chancery, by whom it was conveyed to London - p. 343

*16th November, 1 Hen. VI.* 1422.—Letters patent appointing Thomas Bishop of Durham chancellor of England - - p. 345

*16th July, 2 Hen. VI.* 1424.—Memorandum of the delivery of the Great Seal of silver by Thomas Bishop of Durham, Chancellor of England, to the King at Hertford Castle, and of the delivery of the same to Henry Bishop of Winchester - - - - p. 346

14*th March*, 4 *Hen. VI.* 1426.—Memorandum of the delivery of the Great Seal of silver by the Duke of Bedford to the King at the Abbey of Leicester, and of the re-delivery of it to the Bishop of London, who took the oath of Chancellor - - p. 347

25*th February*, 10 *Hen. VI.* 1432.—Memorandum of the surrender of the two Great Seals by John Archbishop of York, at Westminster, and of the delivery of the same by the King to John Bishop of Bath, on the 27th of the same month - - - - p. 349

22*nd April*, 11 *Hen. VI.* 1433.—Memorandum of the delivery of the Great Seal of silver to John Frank clerk, keeper of the Rolls of Chancery, to be used by him during the absence of the Bishop of Bath, the Chancellor, in France, and of the surrender thereof to the said Bishop on the 23d of May following - - - p. 351

31*st January*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—Memorandum of the surrender of the two Great Seals by John Archbishop of Canterbury, and of the delivery thereof by the King to the Archbishop of York - p. 352

2*nd April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—Memorandum of the appointment of the Earl of Salisbury as chancellor, upon the death of John late Archbishop of Canterbury, and of the delivery of the three Great Seals to him in Parliament - - - - - p. 355

7*th March*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—Memorandum of the surrender of the three Great Seals by Richard Earl of Salisbury, and of the delivery thereof by the King to Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury - p. 358

11*th October*, 35 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—Memorandum of the surrender of the three Great Seals by Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury at Coventry, and of the delivery thereof by the King to Thomas Bishop of Winchester - - - - - - - p. 360

7*th July*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Memorandum of the surrender of a Great Seal of silver by William Bishop of Winchester to the King in his tent pitched in Hardingstone Field, near Northampton - p. 361

25*th July*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—Memorandum of the surrender of the three Great Seals by Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury in the palace of the Bishop of London, and of the delivery thereof by the King to George Bishop of Exeter - - - p. 362

# ACTS

OF

# THE PRIVY COUNCIL,

IN THE REIGN OF

# KING HENRY THE SIXTH.

1422—1461.

# ACTS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

OF

# KING HENRY VI.

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## ACTA DE ANNO VICESIMO SECUNDO.

[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. vi. f. 56. *contemporary* MS.

The King's answer to the demands made by Giles of Brittany, and the other ambassadors of the Duke of Brittany, on the 26th August 1443.[1] This article is printed in D. Maurice's "Memoires pour servir pour de preuves de la histoire de Bretagne," (tome ii. pp. 1360-1,) from the Original in the archives at Nantes. See also Lobineau's Histoire de Bretagne, (tome i. p. 623.), There are no variations between the copies, and this document is reprinted here because it forms part of, and illustrates, the other articles connected with the affairs of Brittany in the year 1443.]

RESPONSES faictes depar le Roy ñre s^r^ a Mon^f^ Gilles de Bretaigne et a aut^s^ gens de Mon^f^ le Duc de Bretaigne sur les choses dañment par eulx exposees au Roy depar le dit Duc.

Premierement, le Roy ñre dit seignr a este t est tres-joieux et bn content de la venue devers lui de mond

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[1] Although the 26th August 1443 was in the twenty-*first* year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, this article is inserted under the twenty-*second* year of that reign, to prevent its being separated from the other documents relating to Brittany which were written in the year 1443.

ſr Gilles lequel tous temps il a eu et av . . . en esperance amour t singuliere dilecc̃on cõme raison est, tant pour la prochainete de lignaigne dont il attient au Roy, cõme pour les vertues t nobles meurs que le Roy scet t cognoist estre en la personne dicellui Monſ Gilles des son jone age quil estoit devs le Roy, esqueles vertuz il a tousjours depuis continue par augmentac̃on de bn en mieulx sicõme le Roy en est aplein informe, Et mercie le Roy leď Duc du desir quil a que monď ſ Gilles lui face ſvice.

Item, entant que touche la possession du Conte de Richmont que monď ſ de Bretaigne demande en faisant au Roy hõmaige par procuř &c.

Response, Le Roy ne oit ne entenoit oncqs jusques a p̃nt que monď ſ de Bretaigne pretendist avoir aucun droit ou dit Conte, Et pour ce le Roy desirant a unchun soulz lui mĩstrer bonne justice ainsi que a sa Royal Mageste apptient le veult faire en ceste partie a monď ſ de Bretaigne qui est son parent si tresprochain, Si fera a grant diligeñ veoir t visiter les registres et enseignemens estans en son tresor et en ses cours des temps de ses pdecesseurs, Et selon ce qui en pora estre trouve il fera en ceste partie a monď ſ de Bretaigne si bonne expedicc̃on avec toute faveur que par raison devra estre content, Et sil appt au Roy que le Duc ait droit ouď Conte de Richemont il le recevra de tsbon cueur a lõmaige qui y apptient selon les droiz loys coustumes t usaiges de son roy^me^ Dangletre.

Item, entant que monď ſ de Bretaigne desire soy emploier au bn de la paix geñal dentre les deulx roy^mes^ de France t Dangletre, le Roy en mercie du bon du cueur monď ſ de Bretaigne, Et desire le Roy que le dit Duc et tous aus princes Catholiques aiēt cognois*sance* et en

leur memoire, cõment feu prince de tresnoble recordacion le Roy son pere que Dieux absoille poursuy le bn de laste paix tant quil vesqui de toute sa poissance, Et depuis le Roy nre f en ensuivant les traches de sond ~~pere~~ feu pere a continuelmt durant son temps poursuy icelle paix samblement, Car toutesfoiz que par son adversaire ou aurs la matiere lui a este ouverte il y a entendu effectuelmt, en envoiant par plufs foiz t en divs lieux grans seignrs de son sang et autres notables hommes de son conseil de divers estats garniz de povoir souffisant pour y besoignier t conclure a la tres grosse charge t despense du Roy, et ses parens vassaulx t fviteurs y ont bn prins grosses *perils* t labours, et na tenu au Roy ne aux siens que pieca la chose nait prins bonne fin, Neantmoins le Roy toudis continuant en son saint t loable ppos pour revence de Dieu nre Benoit Cre*ateur* pour eviter leffusion du sang humain, les perilz des ames du peuple Xpien, et les autres inconveniens qui de plus en plus se acroissent t multiplient a cause de la longue cõti*nuance* des guerres, est t sera tous temps cõme prince Catholique, prest de entendre au bn de laste paix par tous bons t raisonnables moiens, et est tresjoieux t content que mond f de Bretaigne se emploie et besoigne en icelle cõme mediateur, sans toutesvoies en forclore ou debouter autres qui par cy devant se sont offers ou qui cy aps se pouroient offrir devs le Roy a . . . y emploier, Et se aucunes ouvtures en sont ou estoient ftes . . . la partie advse a mond f de Bretaigne, le Roy lui prie que tous temps en bonne diligen les lui veulle signifier cõme en lui en parfaitte confidence, Encores de pnt le Roy est tout conclu t delibree denvoier bn prochment en France ses notables ambassadeurs lesquelz poront plus aulong de-

clairer a mond f de Bretaigne laffeccion t parfait vouloir que le Roy a au bn dicelle paix, et se la divine misericorde voult estre sa grace que paix y puist estre trouver, le Roy fera que mond fr de Bretaigne y sera compris par bons et honnorables termes.

Et entant que les dessusdiz depar mond f de Bretaigne desirent restitucon estre fte de plufs prises t pilleries quilz dient estre ftes par les subgietz du Roy sur ceulx du pais de Bretaigne tc. Le Roy a souventesfoiz receu t chun jour recoit divses grans pleintes de ses subgietz, disans eulx estre tresgrandemt adomaiges par teles prises faites sur eulx par ceulx de Bretaigne, dont le Roy a plufs foiz escript a feu le Duc son oncle et aussi a mond f de Bretaigne depuis quil est venu a seignourie. Mais le Roy na point sceu que a ses subgietz en ait este fte restitucon, Car encore journelmt a grant clameur en sont faittes vers lui poursuites, dont le Roy a grant pitie desirant que a teles prises soit convenablemt remedie t pourveu, Et acelle fin fut avise trois ans a ou envir par les gēs du Roy avec les gens de feu le Duc son oncle lors par lui envoies en Angleterre, que le Duc envoieroit pardeca de ses gens, avec lesquelz le Roy deputeroit des siens pour oir toutes teles pleintes et finalmt en appointier tant dun coste que dautre, en pourveant de paix t seurte pour le temps advenir, dont riens na este fait de la ptie dud Duc, Si na pas tenu au Roy ne aux siens, Neantmoins toutesfoiz que le Duc y voulera envoier, le Roy cōmettera de ses gens pour besoignr avec ceulx du Duc au bn de ceste matiere, et ce pendant le Roy fera crier t publier sur ses ports de mer en toute diligeñ que par ses gens ne soit porte aucun dōmaige aux subgietz de mond f de Bretaigne t desirant que samblablemt par dela mond f de Bretaigne face cōmander aux siens pour

les subgietz du Roy, Donne ou palais a Westñ le xxvj^me. jour Daoust lan de grace mil ccccxliij.

BENET.

(*In dorso.*) þar^les þ^t f Gilles of Bř & þe oþ ambassadeurs deliv̄ed unto þe K. and þanswer̄ þ^t þe K. gave unto hē at Henlee on þe Heeth.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 51. *contemporary* MS.

The following appear to be the Answers given by the King to points submitted by Giles of Brittany, after the preceding document was written, and apparently between September and December, 22 Hen. VI. 1443.]

RESPONSE faicte depar le Roy ñre souv̄ain seignur a certaines demandes nadgaires baillees en esc^ipt par Monf Giles de Bretaigne.

Primerement, entant q̄ led Monf Gilles demande delivrance estre faicte depar le Roy a Monf le Duc de Bretaigne son fře de la Conte de Richemont pour enjoir par le dit Duc &c. En ensuiant le response qui en ceste partie fut nagaires faicte aux ambassadeurs dicellui Duc qui dařment vinrent pardeca en la compaignie de mond f Gilles, le Roy a fait veoir & visiter en grant diligeñ les registres & asseignemens estans en son tresore et en ses courts des temps de ses predecesseurs, Et par iceulx est trouve tresclerement q̄ feu le Roy Edward tint en sa main le dit Conte de Richemont & enapres le donna au Duc de Lenclastre son fitz, le quel a ce tiltre le tint et possida par aucun temps et jusques a ce qil feust recompensez en autre manieř, et reprinst lors le Roy Richard le Second led Conte en sa main.

Item, par yceulx asseignemens est trouve semblement que enapres icellui Conte de Richemont fut baillie a la Roy Anne en assignement de partie de son douaire, la quel a ce tiltre enjoie tout son vivant.

Item, par le trespassement dicelle Dame, le dit Conte de Richemont retourna a la coronne, et le tint feu le Roy Henry le quart qui Dieux absoille, lequelle en disposa a son plaisir. Neantmoins ainsi que autsfoiz a este respondu, le Roy desirant a unchun estre admistree raison et justice ainsi qil apptient, voullant aussi a mond f de Bretaigne faire toute amistie et faveur, attendue la prouchainete de lignaige en quoy mond f de Bretaigne lui attient, toutesfoiz q icellui Monf de Bretaigne vouldra faire remonstrer au Roy plus au clere le tiltre t le droit qil pretend avoir au Conte de Richemont, le Roy lui fera faire en ceste partie si bonne et gracieuse expedicon de justice avecques toute faveur que par raison mond f de Bretaigne en devra estre content, en faisant par led Duc de son coste devs le Roy en ceste partie ce quil apptiendra par raison.

Item, entant q mond Seignur de Bretaigne desire faire au Roy lomaige deu a cause du dit Conte de Richemont par procur, et q pour le faire en nom de lui il ad donne povair aud Monf Gilles son fre tc. ainsi que dessus est dit, le Roy vouldroit faire a mond f de Bretaigne le plus damiste et faveur qil poroit bonnement, Mays selonc les loys t la custume de son reaume Dangleterre a toutz temps observees, quiconques lui doit homage il est tenu de la faire en sa personne, Et nest point trouve que es temps passez le Roy ne ses predecesseurs y aient receu aucun en autr manier, fuissent leurs filz, leurs frres, ne pour quelque prochainete de lignaige.

Et quant a ce q̃ mond Seignuř Gilles desire q̃ mond fr de Bretaignie soit compris en traictie de la paix se la divine misericorde veult ottroier q̃ paix soit trouvee entre le Roy et son adversaiř de Fraunce, Ja par diverses foitz et dařmēt par lesditz ambassadeurs du Duc le Roy lui a fait savoir ƀn largeñt de son entenc̃on en ceste matieř, Et que en cas devantd mon [dit] f de Bretaigne y sera compris par bons et honurables termes, la quele chose le Roy et son counsail quant le temps venra avront en bonne souvenance.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 54. *contemporary* MS.

Memoir containing Giles of Brittany's answers to certain propositions made to him by the King's Council. The date of this article does not appear, but it was probably written in 1443.]

Memoire de remonstrer les choſ qui enſ sur les demandes q̃ on a fait a mon Seigneur Gilles de Bretaigne.

Premier, cōment Monseigñr Gilles de Bretaigne des le temps de son enfance et jeune age sest dispose a ſvir le Roy et a vouloir son honneur bien ꝛ prouſit a son poair, et deiupuix en considerant les grans ƀns ꝛ honnrs quil a pleu au Roy lui faire a tousjours ꝑsevere ꝛ cōtinue envs lui son bon ꝓpos et volente, et pour aꝯtainer le Roy de son bon vouloir ꝛ desir quil a de lui faire ſvice sest dispose a venir en ꝑsonne ꝑdeca en obtempant mesmes aux ƚres q̃ par pluſrs [foiz] il a pleu au Roy lui escripre, et auxi q̃ ꝑ le fr de Seudelay ꝛ autrs ses ſviteurs il le lui a fait sav en offrant mond fr Gilles ~~au Roy~~ son ſvice au Roy ꝛ obeir a ses comādemñs.

Et soit ainsi que on a demande a mond fr Gilles quel ſvice il vouloit faire au Roy et en quoy il se vouloit

emploier pour lui, a quoy mond fr Gilles a respondu que a lui nappartenoit pas de choaysir le fvice quil vouloit faire Roy, ainx estoit au Roy de lui dire t cōmander en quel fvice son plaisir estoit quil le fveist, ceque mond fr Gilles desire faire de tout son cueur.

Et pour ce que on a demande a mondit Seigneur sil vouloit fvir le Roy a la paix et a la guerre, mondit Seigneur a respondu quil estoit content et bien joyeux de fvir le Roy en toutes les facons quil lui plaira lui cōmāder, son honneur garde, pourveu quil plaise au Roy ordēner si bn de lui quil nait cause de querir son bien ailleurs, car quant il se seroit une foiz expose t declaire a la guerre il ne froit jamais abille ne recevable bonnement a avoir en autre lieu aucun grant bien avantageux et ne devroit pas le Roy vouloir len forclure, si tout premier et avant il ne dōnoit provision amond fr Gilles dont il peust honorablemt son estat soustenir en fvice du Roy selon quil apptient a seigneur de telle maison quil est et qui de si pres de lignage ataint au Roy.

Item, et pour ce que on a demande a mondit Seigneur Gilles quil face fment au Roy avecques ctaines fortes liaysons contenues es articles baillees a mond fr p les gens du conseill du Roy, par moien de ctaine ordennāce lui ouverte, il semble amond fr Gilles que nest chose moult estrāge, attendu ce que desf est dit, et le bon vouloir quil a tousjors au Roy, et veu quil la fvi a son poair sanz en avoir aucuns gaiges ne louer, aincois se y est submis de son franc vouloir quil est vraysemble que detant q̃ le Roy lui fera plus de biens il lui fra oblige de plus en plus, et a entente de fvir le Roy plus de fait que de dit, ainsi q̃ nature le y amoneste.

Item, et pour ce que on a ouvert amond fr Gilles ctaines offres et ordennāces pour ce faire, il semble

amond ſr que elles sont moult tendres et petites, attendu q̃ par ce moien lui froit force de renoncer a tout aut̃ bien, et toutesfoiz il sen rapporte au bon plaisir du Roy, et cognoist bien que lad̃ ordennance est plus grande quil na defvi, mais elle ne suffiroit pas a soustenir son estat a lonneur du Roy et de lui.

Item, et mondit Seigneur Gilles voyant t considerant ce quil a pleu au Roy par plufs [foiz] lui escripre et auxi fe savoir par aucuns ses fviteurs ainsi q̃ desf est dit, et mesmes pour le tresgrant desir et singuliere affecc̃on que mondit Seigñr Gilles avoit de voir le Roy en personne, en se mettant en devoir vers lui, ainsi q̃ raison est, et pour mettre son cueur a son aise, est venu pardeca, suppliant au Roy q̃ sur cestes chof il lui plaise faire donñ en brieff response amondit Seigneur et declairer en ceste maṫe son intenc̃on et bonne volente et promptemẽt le fe expedier a son bon plaisir.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 49. *contemporary* MS.

Memoir delivered to the Council by Giles of Brittany, on the part of his brother the Duke of Brittany, apparently about October or November, 22 Hen. VI. 1443. Answers were ordered to be given to these demands on the 12th December in the same year. *Vide* pp. 16—19 *postea* ]

MEMOIRE de remonstrer au Roy et a son conseill les chof qui enf, lesquelles mon Seigñr de Bretaigne a fait savoir a mon Seigñr Gilles son frere.

Premier, comẽt mondit Seigñr de Bretaigne a fait savoir amond ſr Gilles, que lavsaire du Roy lui a fait savoir par lres, conteñ en effeict comẽt il avoit sceu que le Roy devoit ēvoier de [devs] lui Monſr de Suffolk ou autṣ des siens pour cōmūiquer ou fait de la paix, en priant mond ſr de

Bretaigne q̃l fust devs lui autemps quilz y arriveroient, affin de senbesoigner et emploier au fait de laď paix, ainsi q̃ depavant ces heures il avt voulu que feist feu Monfr de Bretaigne que Dieu absoille, et que en ce que sen feroit le y comprandroit de sa part et y garderoit son ranc ainsi q̃l lui apptient et cõme aux autˢ seigñrs proiches de son sange, laquelle allee monď fr de Bretaigne a differe [ottrier] jucquesace que leust fait savˢ au Roy et q̃ de ce il sceust sa bonne volente, et que mondit Seigneur Gilles le voulseist remonstrer au Roy, Et pour ce mondit Seigñr Gilles supplie au Roy quil lui plaise sur ce faire savoir a mondit Seigneur de Bretaigne son bon plaisir.

Iťm, et que mondit Seigneur de Bretaigne mesmes a fait savoir a mondit Seigneur Gilles que Monf le Duc de Sõmercet neantmoins la paix final t les appointemẽs faiz enˢ le Roy ses pais et subgiz et monď Seigneur de Bretaigne et les siens, est entre ouď pais de Bretaigne avec grant nũbre de gens darmes, en quel pais il a fait plufs exploiz de guerre moult crueux t enormes et cõme en pais de conqueste non obstant que ouď pais t es bonnes villes estantę es ꝑties il t ses gens eussent trouve toute faveur t recoeill cõe amis ƀnveillans, et enoultr̃ ce mondit Seigñr de Sõmercet et ses gens sont entrez *en* une des villes dudit pais de Bretaigne nõmee Laquierche, laquelle ils ont pillee t destruite sanz avˢ esgart es appointemẽs delaď paix, ja soit ce que elle par moulz expres y fust cõpˈnse, et durant letemps quil a tenu laďville a fait plufs cources ouď pais de Bretne a .a totalle destruccon du peupple dẽviron et avant quil sen soit voulu deptir a convenu a monď fr de Bretne appointer a lui a la sõme de xxm. saluz dont il a eu xm. contens et du seurplus a eu seelle den estˢ paie dedanz nouel ꝑchn lequel appointemẽt monď fr de Bret̃ a fait por obvier aux grans maulx t exceux q̃ on faisoit

a son pouvre peupple, espant le cas remonstre au Roy quil lui en face restitucon, quell chof est fe et attemptee cont lestat delad paix et en enfraingnant icelle, laquelle mōd fr de Bretne desire entenir de sa part. Suppant au Roy q pour le bn et entenement dicelle il lui plaise faire fe reppacon t restitucon des exceix et dōages desfd et y porvoir de son gracieux remede, car lesd chof sont moult dures t estranges [a endurer] a mond fr de Bretaigne et a son pais.

BENET.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 42. *contemporary* MS.

**Letter from the Council to the Duke of Brittany, dated 2nd December, and apparently in the 22nd Hen. VI. 1443.]**

HAULT t puissant Prince, Nous sūmes tscordialmēt desirant savoir lestat t bonne prospite de vre noble psonne que Dieu par sa benigne grace vueille tous temps multiplier de bn en mieulx. Si vous supplions que pour nre consolacon singuliere par les tentvenans messages vous plaise souvēt nous en certiffier, car pour vite den oir en bn ung chascū de nous aura tsgant leesse. Hault t puissant Prince nous avons depieca t encor de nouvel entendu par les greifurs t piteuses complaintes que nous ont ftes t font de jour en aul les vassaulx t subgiez du Roy Dengletre t de France nre sovain seignr, cōment non obstant le traittie de la paix final des deux royaumes par vous voz vassaulx t subgiez si sollennemēt jure t promise, vosdiz subgiez en venant contre ladte paix t cōme y semble en cōtēpt dicelle, quant ceux de nre dit souvain seignr vont ou veignēt sur mer t tre, les aucuns pour son fvice, aults en leurs marchādises t occupacons cotidiennes qui ne pensent

nont entenc̃on de porter ou faire aucū dōmage en voz pais ⁊ seigneuries, meismem̃t ceulx qui sur la d̃te mer se tiennēt pour le fait de pescherie p̃nsant que par le moyen de la d̃te paix soyent sceurs ⁊ b̃n venuz ainsi que devroyent entre les v̄res, ⁊ que silz cheoyent en dangier icelle paix les en deust garentir ⁊ hors getter, car silz eussent sceu le contraire estoit b̃n en leur povoir deulx pourveoir contre les emprises en leurs adv̄saires quant aucuns de vosdiz subgiez les treuvēt ⁊ en peuvent avoir la maistrise, pour tant que ne sont que poy de gens en ung vaissel aucuns tuent ⁊ murdrissent cruelment, aul̄s gettent en leaue sanz en avoir mi̇ficorde, le demourāt desquelz pour leur prouffit ne vuellēt preserver la mort, prennent lyent ⁊ mennēt avec eulx que puis mettent ensi crueuses horribles ⁊ estroittes prisons que partie deulx par le travail que on leur fait en grant distresse finissent leurs jours, aul̄s qui tant de mal sueffrent pour escheuer la mort ⁊ estre allegiez de telz tormens se mettent a si excessives finances que eulx ne leurs amis jamaiz ne les pourroyent payer, aussi quant par non povoir faillent de payer aux jours que ont assignez p̱ constrainte ⁊ force de gehme vos diz subgiez par derrision les mennēt en lieux publiques ⁊ par les rues devant le peuple ou les martirisent ⁊ tuent inhumainemēt, lequelz quant se voyent si agrevez ⁊ pres [de] mort pour ensuiv̄ la foy X̄pienne ⁊ en bon estat de leurs consciences partir de ceste monde, desirent avoir ⁊ demādent leurs sacremens, par vosdiz subgiez leur sont deniez, et aceulx qui meurēt reffusee la supulture de ̄re saintte qui est cruieuse chose a oir en̄ X̄piens, aul̄s selons quavons sceu ya qui a jamais sont impotens ⁊ par estroiz enferremens ⁊ prison ont les membres pourris, ce que ne froit ainsi fait de Sarrasins a X̄piens encor ce nous fait penser que pleuseurs y sont qui par estroitte prison ne pueulēt p̱deca

denūcier leur misere, dont avons si grande compassion a ~~ñre~~ [noz] cuers que plus ne pourrions, meismemēt de oir que telles gens qui ne ꝑcurent quelque mal a vosdiz subgiez soyent par eulx ⁊ soubz couleur de la ꝺte paix ainsi murdrez ⁊ tirañisez, laquelle paix cōme sēble de prime face iceulx voz subgiez ont ꝑmise seulement a leur avantage pour aulꝛs decepvoir, lesquelles choses ñre dit souꝛain seigneur pres tant de plaintes a cy devant endurees cuidant tous les jours que y pourveissies ne aussi encor ne povons croire que soyent ffes de vre assentemēt ne quen ayez congnoissance, car trop seroyent a vre deshōneur si les congnoissies ⁊ tantost ny pourveyes de remede, Aussi sanz esclande ⁊ ꝓjudice de ñre ꝺ souꝛain ⁊ de cest [dit] royaume ne les pourrions plus endurer ne telles inhumanitez sanz offense enꝛs ñre C'ateur laissier passer soubz dissimulacon, veu q̃ le sang des offensez cōtinuelmēt nous admonestr̃ ⁊ crie sanz cesser aꝑs nous vengence sur vosdiz subgiez qui telles īhumanitez leur font ⁊ sur ceulx qui les sueffrent. Pource hault ⁊ puissant Prince pour la part de ñre dit souꝛain, vous requerons ⁊ prions ⁊ sactes de ñre part que incōtinēt par Garretier Roy Darmes porteur de cestes nous vueillies ctiffier si lesꝺtes choses ont este ou sont ffes de vre sceu ⁊ assent, et si non, que en toute celerite le veuellies monstrer par lappaissemēt de ceux depdeca ⁊ de vosdiz subgiez et tellement vous plaise y ordonner que telz incōvenienc̃ cessent en manꝛe que Dieu ⁊ ñre dit souꝛain en doyent ~~estre~~ ⁊ nous par raison en doyons estre contens, ⁊ vre dicte response sur ce nous vueillies faire si briefve que dicelle puissions appaisier ceulx de cest royaume ou icelle oye ordonner selon que Dieux nous conseillera. Nous faites pareillemēt savoir voz bons vouloirs ⁊ plaisirs desquelz accomplir ferons ñre povoir, prions au Benoit Filz de Dieu hault ⁊c. quil vous doint bonne vie ⁊ longue

t tousjours soit garde de vous. Escript a Westmonst soubz noz signez le second jour de Decembre.

A hault t puissant prince le Duc de Bretaigne.

Les gens du cõseil du Roy nre souvain seignr estans en son royaume Dengleterre.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. vi. f. 48. *Original.*

Minutes of the Council, 12th December, 22 Hen.VI. 1443. All the interlineations and additions, as well as the King's answers, are in the writing of the Clerk of the Council.]

The xij. day of . . . . . Bangor at þe Blak F' . . . pnt my Lord

. . . . .

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|---|---|
| Cantbury | Hunt |
| Garderob | Staff |
| Moleyns | Sudeley. |

Yif it like unto the Kyng, it is thoght unto my lordes of his counsail, that considered the neighnesse of blod that my Lord Sir Giles of Bretaigne atteigneth unto the Kyng and þat in his tendr age he hath be brought up with hym, and the disposicon that ev he hath hadde and yit hath to that that hath been or myght in any wise be to the Kynges worship honeur and proffit and of his reaumes and subgitt, and also that he is comen unto the King for to see his noble estat [and to pfr him hs fvice,] that therfore the Kyng of his good wille, graunte yerely unto my said Lord Sir Giles by his lres patentes undr his grete seal, m[l]. marc of pension, to be taken at the receite of his eschequier at the termes of Estre and of Saint Michel by even porcons.[1]

[1] A pension of 2,000 nobles per annum was granted to Giles of Brittany on the 12th December 1443. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 48.

Also yif it like unto þe Kyng, it is þought unto my said lordes, that hou be it that of þe gaunte that the Kyng hath maad unto him of ml. marc, the ende of this terme wol not finisshe unto Candelmesse next comyng, that for asmuche as he is now on his goyng, that he have his paiement for this terme now in hande.

The K' wol he hav a coppe of xl. li. c. marc & c. li. þinne.

Also yif it like unto the Kyng, it is þought unto my said lordę that he have of the Kyngę gyft now at his goyng, a coppe of golde, and suche a sõme of monnoie as shal like unto the K'.

The K' wol þt he have a purs & c. scutę þynne & a cloth of

Also yif it shal like unto the King, it is thought unto my said lordę that Aleyn Lawe oon of the Dukę ambassadeurs of Bretaigne have a coppe of silver over gilt of the price of xx. marc and a piece of damask.

Also yif it like unto the Kyng, it is thought unto my saide lordę of his counsail, that as touching the firste article that the Duc of Bretaigne hath writeñ to my Lord Sir Giles, for to desire and shewe hem unto the Kyng as touching that he myght be a mediatour in the matier of peas &c. That it be answered unto the said [Lord] Sir Giles on the K' behalf, that ~~þe Kyng wol that in the manier and~~ . . . . . [writeñ . . . . . er befor vj. . . . . upoñ þe which wol . . . . . abyde.]

. . . . . that he herbefore hath writeñ unto the said Duc . . . this behalf that he be comprehended &c.[1]

And ther as the Duc of Bretaigne by the secound article of the said articles complaigneth him on my Lord of Soms &c. Yif it like unto the Kyng, it is thought

[1] See this letter in p. 20, *postea*.

unto my lordꝭ of his counsail, that a ꝉre[1] be directeđ unto my saiđ Lorđ of Som̃s and that þꝫ be encloseđ þꝫinne the saiđ secounđ article, and þat the Kyng wol and cōmaundeth̃ straitely my saiđ Lorđ of Som̃s that yif it be soo as menc̃on is maađ in the saiđ article, that is to say, that he have doon in Bretaigne any attemptat contrarie to þe peas finalle [or appointementz betwix þe K' reaumes ꝛt hˢ lordshipes], that thenne he doo make and make be maađ þꝫof restituc̃on and reformac̃on, soo that noo ferther inconvenience falle thorough̃ his defaulte in this behalf, that Gođ defende. And that furthermore from hens forth̃warde he absteigne hym to doo any thing þꝫe unto the hurte and prejudice of the saiđ peas [or appointementz] as that he wol eschue thinconveniencꝭ þat þꝫupoñ wolde ensue and folowe.

And[2] forasmoche as þᵗ þe Duc of Bretaigne wrote þees matiers unto my Lorđ ꝼ Gilles hˢ broþꝫ, þᵗ þees answers be yeveñ to my saiđ Lorđ ꝼ Gilles and þᵗ he acertaine hˢ broþꝫ of þe K' answer̃ to hē.

[*Ibid.* f. 48 b. 13th December, 22 Hen. VI. 1443.]

The xiij. day of Decembr̃ þe xxij. ver̃ ꝛc. in þe Bisshopꝭ Chambr̃ of Bangor at þe Blak̃ Freres, being ꝑsent my Lorđ of Gloucestr̃ my Lorđ Chanceller my Lorđ of Hunt̃ my Lorđ Sudeley Garderober ꝛt Maistr̃ Adam Moleyns.

þarˡᵉˢ of consail.

Maistr̃ Adam Moleyns þᵗ wᵗ all̃ þe matterꝭ above writeñ was yesterday wᵗ þe K' reporteđ unto my saiđ lordꝭ frō þe K', that þe K' þankeđ þeim of þeir̃ labourꝭ

[1] See the letter to the Duke of Somerset in a subsequent page.

[2] This and the following Minutes of the 13th and 14th December were added in the hand of the Clerk of the Council.

and helde þeir advisement good and cōmandeth þeim to be doñ.

Also þe Warderober þat was send to my Lord the Cardinal wt all þabovesaid matier reported unto my said lord þt hī semed þe said advisementz goode.

* f. 50 b. * Chancellr Warderob M' Adā Moleyns.

Also it the Kyng by þadvis of his . . . . . my Lord hs Chaunceller of England that he . . . . . lres undr hs gret seal of licence, by þe which . . . . psones late fvantz to þe Cardinal of Lexenbrough &c. may passe þe see wt iijc. marc over ijc. li. þt þei have of þe Kyng gift.

[*Ibid.* f. 50 b. 14th December, 22 Hen. VI. 1443.]

The xiiij. day of Decēbr þe xxij. yer in þe same place, þnt my Lord

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| of Cantbury chancellr | Glouc |
| þe Warderob | Hunt |
| M' Adam Moleyns | Staff |
| | Sudeley. |

Be þ maad a lre to þe Duc of Bretaigne as touching þe matier of þe pees after þanswer late gyven to þe Duk ambassadeurs of Bretagne.[1]

It be þ maad a lre upoñ þe complainte of f Gilles of Bretaigne unto my Lord of Soms.[2]

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[1] *Vide* the next page.

[2] *Vide* p. 22, *potsea.*

[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 52. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to the Duke of Brittany, dated 17th December, 22 Hen.VI. 1443. *Vide* pp. 11 and 19, *antea.*]

Depar le Roy.

TRESCH'R t tresame cousin, Depuis que nre treschr t ame cousin Gilles vre fre est venu pardeca devs nous, il nous a par diverses foiz declaire la pfait desir q avez de vous emploier au bn du paix genal entr nous t nre adversaire de Fraunce, duquel vre noble t effectueux vouloir nous vous mcions du bon du cueur tant q plus povons, car en ce monde riens plus volentrs ne verrions fors que icelle paix y puyst estre fermee, Et pour ce nre treschr t tresame cousin desirons que vous t toutes autrs princes Catholiques aiez cognoissan et toudiz en vre bon memoire cōment feu nre treschr seigner t pere le Roy qui Deux absoille tout son vivant poursuy le bn de la dte paix de toute sa puissan, et nous depuis en ensuiant ses traches avons continuelmt durant nre temps fait samblablemt, car toutesfoiz q [par] nre dit adversair ou par autrs icelle matre nous a este ouvte nous y avons entendu effcuelmt en envoiant par plurs foiz et en divs lieux grans seigners tresprochains de nre sang et aurs notables hōmes de nre conseil de divs estas garniz de povoir souffisant por y besoignr t conclure en nre nom, non mye sanz nre bn grosse despense ne sans grans travaulx peines t laboures de noz ditz parens vassaulx officrs t serviteurs, et na pas tenu a nre part que japieca la chose nait prins bonne fin. Ce non obstant nous voulons tousjours perseveramnt continuer en nre ppos davantdit, tant pour reverence de Dieu le tout puissant nre Benoit Createur vray prince t director du paix, cōe pour eviter leffusion du sang humain, ensamble es perilz des almes du peuple Xpien avec les autres in

conveniens qui de plus en plus acroissent & multiplient a cause de la longue continuacion des dolereuses guerres, somes & frons tous temps ainsi q̃ prince Catholique doit estre, pretz & apparaillez de entendre au bien de laď paix par tous bons & raisonnables moiens, & frons ꝑsjoieux & contens q̃ besoigniez & cõme mediate^r vous emploiez au bien delaď paix, sans toutesvoies en forclore ou debouter autr̃s qui par cy devant se sont offers ou qui cy ap̃s se poroient offrir devers nous a eulx y emploier, toutesvoies se aucunes ouv̄tures en sont ou estoient faictes devers vous depar partie adv̄se. Nous vous prions ꝑscĥr & tresame cousin q̃ tous temps en bonne diligence les nous vouilliez signifier come en vous avons parfaicte confidence, car encores dep̃nt nous sommes tout concluz & deliberez denvoier ƀn prochainement en Fran̄ noz notables ambassadeurs pour le fait de la ďte paix, lesquelez vous purront plus aulong declairer laffecion̄ & parfait vouloir que avons au ƀn dicelle, et se la divine mificorde veult estendr̃ sa grace que paix y puist estre trouvee, nous ferons que y serez comprins par bons & honnorables termes. Trescĥr & tresame cousin se aucune chose vous plaist que puissons signifiez le nous & nous lacomplirons du bon du cuer tresvolentrs. Ce scet le Benoit Filiz de Dieu qui vous doint sante & joy avec tout complissement de voz nobles desirs. Donne soubz ñre signet en ñre manoir a Shene le xvij. jo^r de Decembr̃ lan xxij^e. de noz regnes.

A ñre trescĥr & tresame cousin le Duc de Bretaigne.

[Bibl. Cotton. Julius, B. VI. f. 50. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to the Duke of Somerset, lieutenant and captain general of France, respecting the affairs of Brittany, dated 17th December, 22 Hen. VI. 1443. *Vide* pp. 12 and 19, *antea.*]

Depar le Roy.

TRESCH'R ꝛ tresame cousin ⸗ De la partie de ñre ꝯscħr ꝛ ꝯsame cousin le Duc de Bretaigne nous a este nagairs expose par ñre trescħr ꝛ ame cousin Gilles son fre ⸗ cōment nonobstant la paix final a la quelle ñređ cousin le Duc veult adherer ⸗ et nonobstans aussi certains appointem̃s par nous faiz avecques lui pour entretenir paix amour ꝛ tranquillitee entꝯ noz re^mes^ pais ꝛ seigneuries tant dune parte q̃ dautre ⸗ lesquelz semƀlem̃t ycellui ñre cousin de Bret̃ de son coste desir garder et observier sicōme il dit ⸗ vous a g^a^nt puissance de gens de guerre estez entre en son pais de Bretaigne ꝛ y avez fait maulx tr̃sgrans contꝯ la tenur̃ de la paix et des appointemẽs dev^a^ntđtes ⸗ en enfreinnant yceulx directem̃t ⸗ ainsi que plus aplaine est declaire en certain article a nous sur ce baillee par esc^i^pt ⸗ de quel vous envoions la copie enclose en ces p̃ntz ⸗ lesquelles choses se ainsi estoient ⸗ serroient a ñre ƀn g^a^nt desplaisance ⸗ car ceste ñre entenc̃on ꝛ volente que la paix ꝛ noz appointem̃tz av^a^ntđ soient entierm̃t gardez ꝛ observez sans enfraindr̃ ⸗ Si vous mandons ꝛ le plus estroitem̃t q̃ povons vous enjoignons par ces p̃ntz q̃ tantot ces ƚres veuz ⸗ vous repares ꝛ amendez ꝛ fces reparer ꝛ amender reaulm̃t ꝛ de fait toutz les faultes inconveniētz ꝛ dōmages que par vous ou voz gens sont ou auroient estee faiz es pais ꝛ f'ies de ñređ cousin le Duc̃ de Bret̃ ꝛ ou prejudice de ses obeissans subgiez countr̃ la tenur̃ de la paix ꝛ des appointemētz desf declarez ⸗ Et avecq̃s ce gardez sur tant q̃ povez mesprandr̃ envꝯs nous ⸗ que par vous ne par les

v̄rez doresenavant ne soient faiz tielx ou semblez exploiz, dont lesdiz appointementz pourroient estre enfrainz, car inconvenientz innumablez froient taillez den ensuier ou p̄judice de la chose publique q̄ Dieu ne veulle. Et ce faitez en tielle manier q̄ ñred cousin de Bret ne autr̄ nait cause den faire plantes devers nous. Donñ soubz ñre signet en ñre manoir a Shene le xvij. jour de Decembr̄ lan xxij^de. de noz reignes.

A ñre trescher & tresame cousin le Duc de Somerset ñre lieuten & capitain genal en ñre reaume de Fraunce.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. VI. f. 420. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 13th December, 22 Hen. VI 1443.]

R. H.[1].

The Kyng wol þt for such secreet charge as þt he wol þt my Lord of Shrowesbury doo in haste, þt þe Tresorer & Chamblains upoñ such jewelx & goodz of þe Kyngz as þt þeim shal seme good, chevysshe þe sōme of ij m^l. marc & delive it unto my said Lord of Shrowesbury, and þt herupoñ the Keper of his p^ve seal do make his lres undr̄ þe same seal to þe Tref & Chambl in due fourme.

Dated at the manoir of Shene xiij^th. December xxij. Henry the sixte.[2]

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[1] The King's autograph.

[2] In a modern hand, and probably from the indorsement, the article being pasted in the volume.

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[Additional MS. 4609. art. 47. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 26th January, 22 Hen.VI. 1444.]

R. as Tresorer et Chamberleins &c. saluz. Nous volons de ladvis de notre counsail et vous mandons que a notre treschier et bien ame Nichol Husey esquier liquel nous envoions presentement en notre message en Bretaigne en la compaigne de notre treschier et ame cousin Giles de Bretaigne vous faces paier de notre tresore vynt et cinque marcz avoir de notre regard pour son dit alee et aussi pour son retour devers nous sur la dit message. Don &c.

(*In dorso.*) xxvj^to^. die Januar anno &c. xxij^do^, in Camera Stellat apud Westm Rex de avisamento consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere litteras sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem superius annotatum, præsentibus Archiepiscopo Cantuar cancellar Angliæ Comite Suff Dominis de Cromewell Sudeley thes et de Dudley ac Magro Adam Moleyns.

Benet.

[*Ibid.* art. 46.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 1st February, 22 Hen.VI. 1444.]

To the Kyng our souverain lord.

R. H.

SHEWETH unto youre highnesse youre humble cnappellain Thomas bisshop of Bath[1] keper of youre prive seal that for as moche as late ago it liked your said highnesse to commande him with other to go in your ambassad into youre duchie of Guyenne, for the whiche cause yere bene due unto him ciiij^xx^ix. li. as more

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Thomas Beckington. The Journal of his Embassy to the Count of Armagniac in 1442 has been published, (8vo, 1828.)

plainely it appereth in your eschequier in his accompt made upon the same, he can as yit have no paiement nor assignement, to his grete hurt in yat partie. Please it unto your noble grace to give in commaundement by your graceux letters under youre prive seal unto ye Chamberlein of North Wales yat nowe is or for ye tyme shall be, to make redy paiement unto your chapellain aforesaid of ciiij$^{xx}$ix. li. due unto him for the cause abovesaid of ye issues prouffitz and revenues comyng of Northwales, any act ordenaunce restreint commaundement or assignement made or to be made to ye contraire notw$^{t}$standyng, youre said Chamberlein recyvyng towards him letters of acquittance suffisant in yis partie by ye which and by youre said letters under your prive seal he may have due allouance in his accompt.

Lettre ent feust faite a Westm̃ le primer jour de Feverer lan &c. xxij.

[*Ibid.* art. 43.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 8th February, 22 Hen.VI. 1444.]

To the King my soverain lord.

Sheweth unto your highnesse your subgett and uncle Humfray duc of Gloucestre, where that the King your fadre whom God assoille, by his lettres patentes bering date the xxiij$^{d}$. day of June the yere of his reigne the fourth, graunted to your said oncle the constablerie of the castell of Dovorre and of the keping of the v. portes, to be hadde fro the xiij$^{th}$. day of Octobre thanne last past for terme of your said uncles life as hit is conteyned more playn in the said lettres patentes, and how that afore this gift and graunt hit was do to understande to

the King your said fadre that there were many defaltes as well in the houses walles enbatellings church steple wyndowes glasse and other bieldings within the said castell, as of vestements bokys and ornamentys of the church there, and alsoe of arms armatures bowes arrowes arblasters quarrells and other artilleries within the said castell beyng, for the which as well the Kyng your fader the vj$^{th}$. day of Novembre the vij$^{th}$. yere of his reigne by his lres patentes, as ye my soveraine lord by your lres patentes the xxij$^{th}$. day of May the thirde yere of your reigne, ordayned your sayd uncle to surveye all such defaltes and theym by the oversight and witnesse of his beloved squyer Geffrey Louther and Symon Spencer parson of the chirche of the said castle or to toon of hem for tyme to come, as hit shold be necessarie, to repaire and amende all thing and as hit is specifyed in the said lettres patentes.

Please your highnesse to consider these premisses and to graunte your lettres sufficiantz undre your prive seal direct to your Tresorer and Barons of your escheq$^{r}$ commaunding hem to accompte with your said uncle or with a persone covenable in his name by the othe of that oon or of that othir, of all costes and expenses which your said uncle by the vieue and witnesse aforesaid hath doon about the reparation and amendement, aswell of the clocke of all the tyme that your said uncle hath be constable there of the said castell, as of the defaltes and things abovesaid, makeing him due allowance by the said othe of all things specifyed in the said last lres patentes of the said xxij. day of May the said thridde yere of your seid reigne into this day, and that the said Tresorer and Barons the which beth now or which for the time shall be, by vertue and force of your said lettres

of your privy seal may have playn power and auctorite fro tyme to tyme and fro year to year during the life of your said uncle by the vieu and witness aforesaid or of hem that for the tyme shall be thereto ordeyned and depute, to accompte with your said uncle of the said premisses in fourme aforesaid, they yeving due allowance thereof to your seid uncle as hit is afore specifyed and after that hit hath be used and accustumed of old tyme, without any other suit theryn and for that cause to be made unto your highness by your said uncle in tyme commyng, eny act ordenance constitution provision or statute of laborers and contrary thereof made notwythstanding.

Apud Shene viij°. Febr̃ anno &c. xxij°.

Andrewe.

(*In dorso.*) To the Keper of our Privy Seal.

[*Ibid.* art. 45.

Proceeding of the Council, 27th February, 22 Hen.VI. 1444.]

R̃, to ye Tresorer and Chamberleyns &c. greting, For asmoche as at oure desire oure rizt trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Shrowesbury hath graunted at y^s^ tyme to do us service of werr w^t^ a certain retenue in oure reaume of Fraunce and duchee of Normandie for an half yere, so yt he myzt be paied of us in hande of ij^m^. marc̃ of ye x^ml^. li. the whiche herebefore we by oure oyer letters under oure prive seel have yeve you in commaundement to make hym yerof assignement, And we considering ye good wille y^t^ oure said cousin hath at y^s^ tyme to do us service of werr̃, wol yerfor and

charge you y$^{t}$ of ye said x$^{m}$. li. ye do paie unto him now in hande ij$^{ml}$. marc. Yeven &c.

(*In dorso.*) Rex apud manerium suum de Shene xxvij. die Februarii anno &c. xxij$^{do}$. mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere litteras sub eodem sigillo Thes et Camerariis secundum tenorem superius annotatum, præsent Domino Archiepiscopo Cantuarien Rado Domino de Sudeley tres Angliæ ac Magistro Adam Moleyns custode privati sigilli &c.

Benet.[1]

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 112. *Original* Minutes.

Minutes of Council, 3rd March, 22 Hen.VI. 1443.]

The iiij. day of March þe xxij. yer &c. in þe Sterred Chābr at Westm, pnt

My Lord of Cant bury — þe Clerk of þe Rolles
þe Bisshop of Assaph — The Tref.
þe Warderober

R to þe Chaunceller &c. gretyng. Forasmoche as in þ$^{s}$ our grete necessitee þe moost worshipful fadr in God our grete uncle þe Cardinal of England hath graunted to lene unto us þe sōme of ij$^{ml}$. marc [unto þe feste of Seint Martin in wynter next comyng] upon þe seuretee [for h$^{s}$ repaiemēt þof] of ij. ptes of our riche coler [þe which for þ$^{t}$ cause we have maad be delived unto hī], we wol þfor by þadvis of our counsail &t charge you þ$^{t}$ unto þe said most worshipful fadr in God ye do make our lres patent for þengaging of þe said ij. ptes as

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[1] This Minute is printed in the Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 55. from the original writ in the Pell Office. See also Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 42, 56.

~~have be~~ [weř late] maaď unto hī in cas semble for lenyng [unto us] v^c. li. of mōnoie ꝛ receiving ~~ouř jewelles þ⁹ for heřbefeř~~ [þ⁹for þe iij^de. pte of þe same jewel.]

Cantbury Chanc̃ Thef Rollestoñ

Be ~~the Mair and~~ a warrant to þe Tref ꝛ Chambl ꝛc. to delive to Henri [of] Conyngham of Scotland for þe fvice þ^t he shal do unto þe K' x. li. by wey of reward.

M^d' to make warrant unto þe Chanceller of Engl to make Rogger Faukenberge sherrief of Lincolñshiř for þ^s yeř, and for to receive h^s ooth a dedim⁹ potestatem be maaď to f Th Comberworth knyzt.

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[Additional MS. 4609. art. 44. a modern *Transcript.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 18th March, 22 Hen.VI. 1444.]

To ye King·oure souverain lord.

Plese it unto youre moost noble grace to graunt your letters under youre privie seel to be directed to S^r Robert Monter clerc of your hamper after th'effect and tenour of a cedulle to this bill annexed, and that for God and by way of charite.

R. H.

Henry by ye grace of God ꝛc., to our trusty and wel-beloved S^r Robert Monter clerc of oure hamper greting, We wol and charge you that ye deliver unto oure wel-beloved the Provost and scolers of oure College of Oure Lady and Saint Nicholas nowe late founded by us in oure Universite of Cambrigg or to her deputees or attournez, alle ye letters patentz seeled or to be seeled under oure greet seel and writtes nowe being or to be in your keping in oure said hamper from tyme to

tyme, which patentz and writtes concerne or shall concerne oure said college in eny wise, and yat frely w'oute fyne or fee grete or small or eny other thing to be had or asked for ye said patentz and writtes, whereof we wol that yees oure letters be unto you suffisant warrant and discharge. Yeven &c.

Lettre ent feust fte a Westm le xviij. jour de Mars lan &c. xxij$^{de}$.

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## Acta de Anno Vicesimo tertio.

[Additional MS. 4609. art. 74. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 14th January, 23 Hen. VI. 1445.]

R au Chaunceller saluz, Come nous de lavis de notre counsail eons donnez et grauntez conge et licence et par cestes presentes donons et grauntons conge et licence a noz bien amez Christopfer de Poges et Austin de la Robbe merchantz de Jene et au Petr de Saint John burgez de Bruges en Flandres et a chescun de eux, qils purront fair estre amesnez et conduittz a eux et a chescun de eux en yceste notre royaume d'Engleterre deux grandez tables des diamandes et deux meindres et iiij. graund rubies et iiij. saphirs et dousze perles, pur mesmes les diamandes rubies saphirs et perles sils puissent vendr en yceste notre royaume, et si elles ne soient venduz qalors bien lirra a eux de les envoir hors diceste notre royaume vers queux parties que lour plerra, saunz paier a nous ou a notre oeps aucune custume subside ou devoir a nous due pur lapportee dicelles piers en notre dit roiaume ou pur lenvoie hors dicelle, et saunz disturbance ou empechement de nous noz officers et ministres. Purveu toutesvoies que si mesmes

les pierrs soient venduz en ceste notre roiaume d'Engleterre que nous soions bien et loialment paiez et responduz des custumes subside et devoirs en ceste partie duez, et que a la primer apporte dicelles pierres en yceste notre royaume elles soient venez et destruiees par noz officers, et en cas quelles soient rapportees hors de mesme notre royaume qelles soient aussi rendres et destruiees par noz officers, si mandons que sur ce vous facez faīr noz lettres patentes dessoubz notre graund seal en due fourme adurers par deux ans prochein avenier. Donne &c.

(*In dorso.*) The xiiij. day of Januer the xxiij. yere &c. in the Sterre Chambr̄ at Westm̄ the King by th'advis of his counsail cōmaunded ye Keper of his prive seel to do make letters undre ye same seal after ye tenure withinne writen, present my Lords the Chaunceller and Tresorer of England the Viscount Beaumont the Prive Seal and oth̄.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 90.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 31st January, 23 Hen.VI. 1445.]

To the King our soveraign lord.

Sheweth unto your hyghness youre pouer chapeleyn Willyam Cleve clerk of your werks that late of newe hath made by your commaundment at your Tour of London a kechen with al other maner of offices with loggings thereto belonging and a new draght brygge, and as yit receyved never in money xl. ď., and now late there is appoynted by your counsail to make in all hast possible for the plesir of your highness and necessarie resort of straungers to come in likely hast to your manoir of Eltham, for a new halle with squillery saucery and surveyng place, al of newe and reformac̄on honour

able for the Queens loggyng thereas, now desolated, and at Shene the waterbrigge the grete quadrangle with a yatehouse all of new to be made for necessary logging of your worshipfull household with closer of brike toured aboute your gardein there, and at Westm̃ the Grete Chamboure for your graciouse persone and the Quenes logging with the Parlement Chambre and Peynted Chambre with reformation of your condwyts there and ordinance for the scaffald to be made in Westm̃ Chirche for the estate of the coronation, please it therefore your highnesse to commaunde your Tresorer to deliver onward for purvyance and hasty expedition of the necessitees forsaide unto your said clerk good assignment of a m$^{l}$. li., to be received of the first payment of the dismes granted unto your highness by the clergy, and he thereof to answer you in his account byfore your barons in your eschekir, consideryng that the said Willyam hath and most payne hym for to purvey money the mene v$^{c}$. marc̃ or more to pay wekely pouer workemen laborers stuff and cariage to Goddys plesir and profit as hit shall appere by Gods grace for Gods love and for pite of your said places.

Lr̃e ent feust fait a Westm̃ le xxxj. jour de Januer lan &c. vynt et tierce.

[*Ibid.* art. 76.

Proceeding of the Council, 1st February, 23 Hen. VI. 1445. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 73, 74; Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 53.]

The first day of Feverer the xxiij. yere &c., to the King in his Secree Chambre at Westm̃, being p̃sent my Lord of Gloucestre and my Lordes the Cardinal of Yorke Tharchbisshop of Caunterbury the Duc of Excestre the Bisshops of Saint Assaph Norwich Saresbury and of

Baath prive seal and the Marqueis of Dors Therle of Stafford the Lords Cromwell Sudeley tresorer and Dudley S^r John Stourton kn^t and Maister Adam Moleyns dean de Saresbury, my Lord of Suff sayde in maner as followeth.

Sir yif it like unto your highnesse I suppose that ye have in good remembraunce hou that I have hadde grete knowleche amonges the parties of your adversaires in France as in being prisonn amonges theim and have hadde long conversacon w^t the Duc of Orleaunce at all such times as that I was his keep, for the which causes saving thoffence of yo^r highness, me semeth it not according that I be send now in thambassade that is spoken of to goo into Fraunce, and specially for the nominacon that your adversairs amonges others made of me for to be sent and come in the said ambassade, and therefore as humbly as I can and may I beseche your said highnesse that some other persone such as shall like unto you may be sent in the said ambassade and that it like your said highness to hold me excused thereof, Beseching you that ye wol at all times have such conceit of me that I ne can nother never shall eulogne nother strange me in this said ambassade nother in any other thing from thaccomplissement of your heigh commaundment, hou be it that as I am enfourmed langaige is sowen upon me in London of thees consideracons before rehersed sith my going is opened among the people. And on the other side I have seye that lordes of grete auctoritee and estat have laboured by your heigh commaundment and desire in semble ambassade for the wele of peas, the which with grete wysdames and providence executed as treuly as thei coude or might the charge to theim leid in semble wise as it is now leyde upon me, the which knowe my selfe full fer from their conduycts and circumspectons,

and for all that yit nevertheless the people of the land have noysed hem and God knoweth in parlem$^{ts}$ and elles where full hewyly to their gret charge and burdon in all, in all that that in theim was, the which and they so dyd of me it were to hevy to me to bere seyng their estatz and thestat that I am of.

To the which my said Lord of Suff my L$^{d}$ Chaunceller by the Kings high commaundm$^{t}$ and desire and at the desire of all the other lords before writen, said that the King willed and desired him to goe in the said ambassade and that such charge as that he wold ley upon him that he receive it take it and execute it, and than my said Lord of Suff besought the Kings highnesse that sith it luste him not to have hym discharged of the said ambassade but fynally to commaund hym to goe thereinne, that seyng the grete weight of the said matier of ambassade he might be accompaigned with sad and circumspect men for the good of the said matier and with such as can wol and may bere with him for the Kings worship, so that the partie adv̄se may se that though ye send at this time but men of esye degree and few in nombre yit that thei have discretion convenable with theim for such matiers as thei be send for, that he putting him in his devoir in the said matier of ambassade though that the matier achieve not, that God forbid, in such wise as is desired and trusted that it shall, that therefore noe charge be laid upon him nother that he therefore ronne into any daunger or hevynesse of the King nor on any other behalfe nor wise, but that he may stand alway in the Kings good conceit and grace. Whereupon the King advised by my lords of his councill aboveseid commaunded my Lord Chauncell$^{r}$ to say on his behalfe to my said Lord of Suff, that he putting him in his devoir in the said matier of ambassade as he trusteth that he

wol, though that the matier achieve not, that God forbidde, in such wise as is desired and trusted that it shall, that therefore no charge be leyd by him his heires councell[rs] offic[rs] nor noon of his people upon my said Lord of Suff his heires nor execut[rs] in tyme commyng, nay upon any persone goeing in the said ambassade, nether that therefore he renne into any daunger or hevynesse of hym nor on any other behalfe nor wyse, and wol that in this behalf stand in his good conceit and grace. And furthermore the King willed him and commaunded such charge as he wold lay upon him that he shold receive it take it and execute it. And my said Lord of Suff thanked the King on this behalfe and said he would obeie his commaundment, desiring of his highnesse that hereupon he might have his gracious lres patents, the which the King graunted unto him and commaunded the Keeper of his prive seal to do make warrant undre the same seal unto the Chauncell[r] of England commaunding him to do make be maad hereupon his lres patents undre his grete seal in due fourme.

Benet.

[*Ibid.* art. 100.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 3rd February, 23 Hen. VI. 1445.]

To the King our soverain lord.

Bysecheth louly youre humble and pouer servant Richard Jordan keper of your selers within your castle of Wyndsore, at the manoir in the parc at Esthampted, and at Henley on the Heth, that in consideracon of the long and continuel labours and grete attendaunces that he hath hadde yerely and daily in keping of your seid celers, hit please you in his age to graunt unto him a livere of mete and drink to be taken in your worshipfull houshold dailli at suche tyme as ye or your household shall lye

and abyde in your seid castle at Wyndsore, that is to wete, a cast of brede at youre pantr̃, a galon of ale at your botery, and on the eting day of flessh a messe of mete at none and a nodre at even, and on the fifth day at none a mese of fissh, in maner and fourme as the Keper of the place the Keper of your beddes and the Port̃ of the uttre gate have and dailly take, and of your more special grace, the p̃misses considered, that ye wol graunt unto him a gowne cloth to be taken yerely during his life at yȯur grete warderobe in London in sute with yomen offic^rs^ of your worshipfull household by the deliveraunce of your warderoper there for the tyme being at all such times as your said liv̄e shall be gifen to your seid yomen, and hereuppon your l̃res patents of liberate currant and your breff of alloc. dormant to be made in duhe fourme, and he shall pray to God for yow.

Seudeley Chamberlein.

Lr̃e ent feust faite a Westm̃ le iij. jour de Feverer lan &c. xxiij.

[*Ibid.* art. 80.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 9th March, 23 Hen.VI. 1445.]

To the King our soverain lord.

Shewyth in his most louly wyse your humble subgette and true liegeman Richard duc of York that where that the castell man^r^ and lordship of Crughowell hath of tyme that noo mynde renneth beholden of your said subgette and his auncestres of her castell and lordship of Blaullveny and Dynas by knight service and other services, unto now late that oon S^r^ John Pauncefoot and his feffees thereof by his sotill ymagination purposing to disheritt your said subjette and his heires for ever of his services, have made dyvers estates and feffements, reserving to hym other service and reversions of the seid castell maner and lord-

shipp of Crughowell, which service and reversion after the decees of the seid S^r^ John Pauncefote Thomas Pauncefoot and aftre the decees of the heires of the body of Hugh Pauncefoot fader to the said S^r^ John laufully begotten have graunted to your noble persone, to have to you and to your noble heires for ever, which estates and graunts ye soveraigne lord not advertised of the said subtyll ymagination neither of the dishériteson that might in this cace falle to your subgette have accept ratifyed and approved, which is to the pleyn dishériteson of your said subgette and his heires for ever of his said service but if sone remedye under your gracious licence bee purveyed.

Wherefore your seid humble subgette and true ligeman besechith your good grace in his most louly wise to consid^r^ the seid sotill imagination doon in his absence to his dishériteson in fourme above reherced he beyng in your service by your commaundment in your realme of France and duchie of Normandie, that yee of your benigne favour and grace especiall, like to yeve licence and leave to your seide subgette to sue by his counsellours and servaunts in your high court of parlement for the restitution of his seid inheritaunce, yee sovaigne and most drede lord, though hit sowne to the revocation of the seid grauntes made unto you, takyng therefore with him nether w^t^ his consellers and servants noo displeasire, and he shall pray God for your noble and excellent estate.

(*In dorso.*) In palacio suo Westm̃ ix°. die Martij anno &c. xxiij°. Rex concessit p̃sentem supplicationem ut petitur mandavitq; Custodi privati sigilli sui desup fieri mandare ℔as sub eodem sigillo Cancellar̃ dirigendas &c. p̃sentibus Dñis Cancell' Duce Glouc̃ Cromewell' &c.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 79.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 14th March, 23 Hen.VI. 1445. Sir Andrew Ogard, the petitioner, was naturalized by parliament in 1433. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. iv. p. 439.]

To the Kyng oure souverain lord.

BESECHETH mekely youre humble liege Andrew Ogard knight, that where as by succession yere is fallen unto him in ye reaume of Denmark where he is born and in oyere places of ye King of Denmarks obeissance, certaine lifloode and landes and oyer goods meubles, plese hit your highnesse to shewe unto youre saide liege y^t^ he may have knowlache yf it bee ye good plesour of your excellence y^t^ he joysse ye saide enherytance and oyer goods and yeruppon send into the said reaume of Denmark and oyer places his procurours for him w^t^ suffisant pour to obteine possession and joyssance of the said enheritance and oyer goods and to doo the services and duetez required yerupon, after ye lawes of ye cuntrees, whiche ying how be hit ye saide Kinge of Denmark is of your alliance, yit ye saide besecher wol not in noo wise attempte nor doo hit withouten your gracius licence in yat partie. Wherfore youre saide liege besecheth lowly youre noble grace y^t^ hit plese youre highnesse to commande youre letters undre youre prive seel directed to youre Chanceller of Englande commandyng to seel and doo make out your letters under your greet seel of licence to ye sayde besecher for ye matier above rehersed, and he shall pray to God for your moost excellent estat and welfare.

(*In dorso.*) In palatio suo Westm̃ xiiij. die Marcii anno &c. xxiij. Rex concessit hanc supplicationem ut petitur mandavitq; Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri mandare litteras sub eodem sigillo &c., præsentibus Dominis Cancell' Thes̃ Episcopo Bathoñ.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 89.

Proceeding of the Council, 25th May, 23 Hen. VI. 1445.]

HENRI &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberleins of oure eschequier greting. For as moche as we have bought of y'executours of the Lord Fanhop late passed to God ij. nouches which draw to v. c. and xl. li. we wol yerfore by yadvis of oure counsail and charge you yat unto ye saide executour ye make aggrement and contenting of the some of v. c. xl. li. above saide. And furthermore for divers causes moevyng us, we wol by yadvis abovesaid and charge you yat unto oure welbeloved squier John Merston tresorer of oure chambr and keper of oure jewell ye deliver ye saide nouches. Morover that ye content th'Abbot of Seint Albons of c. li. for cercle of x. ouches of golde sette with greet perle baleys and saphurs which was leyde to him and op to wed . . . and deliver ye same cercle to oure saide squier. Over this we wol also yat unto ye same oure squier ye deliver a Jorge which was late bought of Will Estfelde knyght. Yeven &c. at Westm ye xxv. day of May the yere &c. xxiij.

Apud Westm in Camera Consilii tempore parliamenti die et anno suprascript Rex de avisamento consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri mandare litteras sub eodem sigillo secundum formam superius annotat, præsentibus Dominis Canc Thes Cardinal Ebor Epis Norwic Elien Ducibus Exon Buck Cromwell &c.

T. Kent.

## ACTA DE ANNO VICESIMO QUARTO.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 90 a. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to John Bredon, a priest at Coventry, dated 14th March, 24 Hen.VI. 1446. This and the two following articles occur on the same paper.]

TRUSTY and welbeloved̃. For asmuche as ye knowe wel we were late enfourmed̃ that ye shuld̃ have now late openly preched̃ and affermed̃ certain opinions in our̃ citee of Coventr̃ sownyng ayenst both God̃ lawe and our̃, by the p̃ching of þe which opinions ye ded̃ þat þat in you was to have stured̃ and moeved̃ þe people of our̃ said̃ citee other wise þañ wel, wherof might have growe inconvenienc̃, which we willing to avoide, wol and charge you streitely þat anoñ aft̃ þe sight of þees, all̃ excusac̃ons ceesing, ye departe oute of our̃ said̃ citee of Coventr̃ and goo to þe Ministr̃ Provincial of your̃ order or to his vicar̃, and be ruled̃ and demened̃ as we write unto him in þis behalf. And we wol þat ye leve not þis on þe feith and ligeance þat ye owe unto us and as ye wol eschue our grevous indignac̃on. Yeven̄ &c. at Westm̄ þe xiiij. day of March þe xxiiij. yer̃ &c.

To Frer̃ Joñn Bredoñ frer̃ minor̃
of the cōvent of Coventre.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to the Minister Provincial of the Friars Minors in England, respecting John Bredon, a member of that fraternity, 14th March, 24 Hen.VI. 1446.]

By þe King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved̃, For asmuch as we wer̃ late enformed̃ bat Frer̃ Joñn Bredoñ frer̃ minour in þe convent of our̃ cite of Coventr̃ shuld̃ have now late [openly] p̃ched̃ and affermed̃ certain opinions in our̃ said̃ citee sownyng agenst both God̃ lawe and our̃, by

þe ꝑching and affirmacõn of þe which opinions he deed̃ þat þat in him was to have stured̃ and moeved̃ þe people of our̃ said̃ cite other wise þen wel and agenst þe laudable custumes herebefore had̃ and used̃ in our̃ cathedral chirch ꝑ̃e, þe which in ꝑ̃t þat in us is we wol and owe to manteine and susteine for asmuch as [we] beth þeir̃ sov̄ain lord̃ and patron̄ and for asmuch as we wold̃ have alle our̃ subgittes to lyve in rest and pees aft̄ God̄ lawe and our̄ and no þing to be shewed̃ or ꝑched̃ unto þeim but þat þat might sowne to good̃ and be to reste and wele of our̃ people. And also for asmuch as þe said̃ Freꝛ̃ John hath openly ꝑched̃ as it is abovesaid̃, we wol ꝑ̃fore and charge you straitely þat anoon̄ aft̄ þe sight of þees, all̃ op̄ þinḡ left and excusacõns ceesing, ye remoeve þe said̃ Freꝛ̃ John from þe said̃ convent of our̃ said̃ cite of Coventr̃ unto som̄ op̄ convēt of your̃ ordr̃ xl. or l. mile þens or more, and þat ye charge him from hens forward̃ not to cōme at our̃ said̃ cite ne to ꝑche of þe said̃ opinions in any place. And we wol þat in no wise ye leve þis as ye wol eschue our̃ grevouse indignacõn. Yeven̄ &c. ut sup[a].

To Freꝛ̃ Thomas Radnor̃ ministr̃ ꝓvincial of þe Freꝛ̃ Menores in þis our̃ reaume of England̃ or to his vicair̃ having power in his absence.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to the Mayor, bailiffs, and inhabitants of Coventry, respecting John Bredon, the priest mentioned in the preceding documents, dated 14th March, 24 Hen.VI. 1446.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved̃, For asmuch as we weꝛ̃ late enfourmed̃ þat Freꝛ̃ John Bredon̄ freꝛ̃ menour in þe convent of our̃ cite of Coventr̃ shuld̃ have now late ꝑched̃ and affermed̃ ꝯtaine opinions in our̃ said̃ citee

sownyng̃ agenst both God℘ lawe and our̃s, wherof we beth evel cõtente yif it be so, of þe which opinions þe said̃ Fre̅ hath ꝑmissed̃ and is sworen to make revocacõn [and renunciacõn] aft̅ þe tenur̃ of a cedule endentyd̃ tripartite, þe on̄ remaynyng toward̃ us in þe office of our̃ prive seal, the other toward̃ þe said̃ Priour̃ and [þe] convent of þe same place, and þe þrid̃ toward℘ þe said̃ Fre̅ of þe which we send̃ [you] a copie closed̃ withinne þese by our̃ welbeloved̃ ſvant Ric̃ George sergeant of armes it is conteigned̃ more at large. And for asmoch as it is gretely nedeful and spedefull̃ for þe good̃ of all̃ holy chirche us and our̃ people revocacõn of all̃ unlawful opinions be shewed̃ þe̅ and unto such ꝑsones as þey have be ꝓched̃ unto herebefore, the said̃ Fre̅ hath̄ þ̄fore in cõmaundement of us by þadvys of þe lord℘ sperituel and tempell̃ in þis oure ꝓsent ꝑlement to go to our̃ said̃ cite and þere openly to sey in þe pulpit in þe parish chirches of our̃ said̃ citee on̄ day festival or ij. þe next festival dayes þat he [shal] come to our̃ said̃ citee before all̃ þe people þen being in þe same, aft̅ þe tyme of þe offering accustumed̃ þ̄, so þat þey may here hit at þe tyme of þe high̄ masse in þe same chirch̄, all̃ þat þat is conteigned̃ in þe same cedule and neiþ̄ more neiþ̄ lasse, and yif þat he do it not or refuse it to do or wold̃ say oþ̄ more or lasse or eny þing þat migh̄t tourne to þe cõmocõn of our̃ people þat þen ye Mayre cõmitte him [þerfore] to p̄soñ, þ̄e to abyde unto þe tyme þat we geve you other in cõmaundement, and þat ye our̃ said̃ Mair̃ ctifie us in alle goodly haste what þat ye do hereinne, and we wol þat in no wise ye leve þis. Yeveñ &c. ut sup[a].

To þe Mair̃ bailiffs and worthy men of our̃ cite of Coventr̃.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 91. apparently the *Original.*

Statement of John Bredon, a friar minor of Coventry. No date occurs to this article, but it evidently relates to the affair noticed in the preceding letters.]

HIT is not unknowen that where the Priour and cōvent of the chirche cathedral of Oure Lady Seynt Marye of this citee of Coventre psons and pprietaries of the parissh chirches of the same and their predecessours have had posseded and used to have as in right of the said chirche of tyme that no mynde of man is the contrarye, that what psone dye within this said citee suburbes and hamelettes of the same, hath been first brought to the said cathedral chirche with apparaille of wex, there to abide tylle the masse and othir observance to Cristen people pteynyng be complete and had, the corps therof then to be beryed outher at the same cathedral chirche or elles at oon of the parisshchirches or chircheyarde where the psone of the deed corps was convsaunt, or there where in his lif he chase his sepulture, the said apparaille of wex remaynyng with the said cathedral chirche to the use of the same, which title and possession is good als welle by the lawe spuall as by the lawe temporall, I Frere John Bredon frere minour of the cōvente of the same citee in the tyme of the Holy Advent of Oure Lorde last passed, in the parisshchirches of this same citee, ayens the said custom and title as oure sovain lorde the Kyng and the lordes spuall and temporall been acerted, oponly preched and affermed that alle man offerynges owen to be yeven alonely to theyme that mynistren the sacramentes to the pisshens, also that neither the Pope ne alle the worlde may

compelle eny mañ to offerr̃ eny thing in the said̃ cathedral chirche, also that neither the Pope ne alle the worlde may make but that a fre man in his last wille may dispose the lightes pteynyng to his corps where soever he wille, and so that I inducyng the pisshens of the said̃ parissħchirches to execute my purpose bad̃ that they shulde boldely bere the lightes of the corpses fro that tyme forward̃ to their parissħchirche or whither they elles wolde, notwithstondyng eny contrarie use, pmittyng my self̃ to defende theyme that so did̃, seiyng that in Englond̃ was not so bonde a citee as this citee of Coventre is in kepyng and observyng the said̃ custom̃ and promittyng my self̃ to make this same citee free, so that the said̃ Priour and cōvente shuld̃ not prevaile to have the said̃ custom̃, which sayng might cause the people to turne theirr̃ hertys fro the said̃ Priour and cōvente and fro observyng̃ the said̃ lawfull̃ custom̃, and also that I said̃ that in Englond̃ was not so covettous a place as was the priorye of Coventre, also that I impugnyng the said̃ custom̃ by anothir unlawfull̃ meañ said̃ and affermed̃ that eny custom̃ howe long so ev̄ hit be thowe hit be of a c. yeres, if hit be in p̄judice of cōe wele it is unlawfull̃, and that the said̃ custom̃ is in p̄judice of cōe good̃ because hit is p̄judicial to the parissħchirches of Holy Trinite and Seynt Michell̃ of Coventre, and therfore that hit is unlawfull̃, also that I seid̃ that alonely they that mynistreñ the sacramentes and mynistreñ aboute the corpses as vicairs and parissħprestes shuld̃ have the obvenciones and profites of the corpses and not the monke of the priorye which may not mynistre the sacramentes, also that I in my billes that I made to be set upoñ the chirche dores in this said̃ citee promysed̃ to delyv̄ the people of

this same citee fro the thraldom of Pharao, the which sownyth ayenst the said cathedral chirche and the laufull custom of the same. In alle thise premisses by the lordes spuall and temporall by the comaundement of oure said sovain lorde the Kyng duely examyned is founden matier upon the which might sue grete inconveniences ayens the lawes of God of the chirche and of oure said sovain lorde, and also pjudiciall to the said Priour and covent, wherfore I the same frere if I meynteyne or justifie the said unlaufull opynions or any of theyme or who so ev soo doo been worthy to be sore punysshed and chastised by the lawe of the chirche, and therfore as ferre as I have suche mattiers or opynions affermed preched or taught I the same frere revoke and renounce theyme and yche of theyme, prayng and exhortyng you that yee gif neither faithe ne credence to theyme ne execute theyme in eny wise. Wherfore I nowe wele avysed and moeved therto in conscience exhorte and pray you to kepe and observe the said laudable custom in puttyng away and eschewyng hurt and offence of conscience and also avoydyng punyssment due to alle theyme that doon contrarye to the same custom for als muche as hit is a custume comendable and so owyng to be kept and observed to encrese of mede by pleasire made to Almighty God who graunte you and me to lif in this worlde aftir juste lawes and laufull customs vertuously, soo that we may deserve to rejoyse hevenly recompense evlastyngly, Amen.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 303. *contemporary* MS. on parchment: probably the *Original.*

Instructions issued to the Commissioners appointed to borrow money in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Herts, dated 20th July, 24th Hen. VI. 1446.]

CREDENCE cōmitted by the King our souvain lord unto his trusty and welbeloved Whalesby Gilbt Parr̃ and to either of þeim for to shewe and declar̃ on his behalf to such psones sp̃uell and tempell dwelling within þe shire of Norff Suff Essex̃ Hertford as þeim seme good for monney to be had and lent to þe King.

First the said comissioners after due greting shal ley afore hem þe good inclinac̃on þat þe Kinge uncle of Fraunce hath to þe pees as it appereth by writing sending of ambassadeurs and otherwise, þe which pees also þe King ħtely desireth for þe wele þat shal enseue þ⁊of to his reaumes and subgitte and to alle Xp̃endom in eschewing þe incōveniencе þat might folow of þe contrarie, þe costes also charge and expenses by his subgitte and people of long tyme born̄ by cause of werr̃ and þat sholde of necessite be born̄ yif it shuld continue, that God forbede.

For the which pees not only by the King and his said uncle but also by al Cristendome gretly desired, both the King and his said uncle be condescended and appointed to psonel convenc̃on in the reaume of Fraunce where for the said cause the King hath promitted and wol be in psone by the grace of God in Octobre next cōmyng, soo that it shal not stande by hym nor by the labour̃ of his owne psone, the which his hieghnesse spareth not, but by Godde grace the said pees shal be had and concluded.

For the which his going the King knoweth wel that their gret wisdomes and discrecons canne and may wel conceyve that it wol be unto hym right chargefull and also to the lordes of his blode and other which ben appointed to goo with hym, not only in levyng of their wages but also in jubardie of their psones more precious than any good, and yit neyther with this nether with the tresore that he hath in hande the King is furnesshed nor purveied of good soufficient for such charge as in th said viage for pees he most necessarely bere. And therfore the said comissaires shal entrete the bisshopps and al thabbottes priours denes archidaikones and thrifty persones in the shires of Norff Suff Essex and Hertford and desire of hem that they wol paye their hoole disme nowe in hande graunted in the last covocacon, and yif thay wol not [do] soo, then they shal entrete hem to paye nowe in hande the oon half of the said disme, and yif thay wol not do that, þan the said comissaires shal entrete hem to lene such good as that they shal mowe goodly gete of hem uppon assignement of their owne dismes.

And in semble wise the said comissaires shal entrete all the good citees townesshipps knyghtes squiers and thrifty men dwelling withinne the abovesaid shires to lene asmoch money as thay shal mowe goodely geete of hem, taking for their suretee of repaiement þ of good and soufficeant assignement of ~~the last pte of the quinsisme and disme graunted in the last plement~~ such grauntes as have be maad unto þe Kyng in þe last plement ~~or resve~~ except þe first pt of þe said grauntes paiable at Martynmasse next comyng.

And [þfore] the King trusting in the kindenesse of his trewe lovyng and welewilling subgittes whom he hath

founde redy at al tymes in al his necessitees, desireth and p[a]yeth therfore hertely the said̄ psones sp̄uell̄e and tempell̄e and ev̄ich̄ of theim as they love and tendre the good̄ of the sayd̄ pees and the worship̄ welfare and suretee of his psone and also of his landę lordshipp̄s and subgittę, that they wol shew unto him in this his grettest necessitees their affeccon and good̄ good̄ wille, the said̄ psones sp̄uell̄ in payeng nowe in hand̄ their dismes or lenyng as above, and the said̄ psones tempell̄ in easing him by way of app̄st undre soufficeant assignement as above of such̄ sōmes as shal be desired̄ of ev̄ich̄ of theim by the said̄ cōmissioners, wherein they shal do the King singler plesire where thorugh̄ the King wol can̄ theim right good̄ thanke and shewe unto theim his gracious favoures in such̄ thingę as they shal have to doon̄ with̄ him in tyme to cōme, and that the said̄ sōme of monoye ev̄ich̄ of theim wol send̄ it into the receite of [the] Kingę eschequier by such̄ a psone or psones as he trusteth̄ on̄ in all̄ goodly haste, and at the ferrest by the morowe of the fest of Saint Michel next cōmyng, there for to deliv̄e it to the Tresorer̄ of England̄ or to such̄ psone or psones as he wol depute to receyve it, taking at that tyme for their repaiement therof, sufficeant assignement by auctorite of parlement of such̄ graunte as have be maad̄ unto hym nowe in the last parlement as above.

And the King wol and chargeth̄ the said̄ cōmissaires that such̄ sōmes of mōnoy as [shal] in this behalf be paied̄ and borowed̄, that they make therof a bylle endented̄ betwix theim and the paier and lener, in the which̄ shal be specified̄ the sōme that shal be paied̄ and lened̄ and the day whan it shal be brought̄ into the Kingę receyte, and that such̄ billes be sent into the said̄ receite at the lest before the said̄ fest of Saint Michel next cōmyng.

And forasmoch as the King is not fully enfourmed which of his subgitts may paye and lene as above, the King sendeth therfore unto his said cōmissaires lres undre his prive seal after the tenur hereto annexed with blanc tailles, the which lres the King wol that they directe hem to such psones citees and towneshipps as that theim shal seme good, and write in the tailles of the same lres the names of the persones that they shal be directed unto, and so delive hem to the said persones.

A° xxiiij^to. H. vj^ti.

[A separate article from the preceding; but it may originally have been written on the same parchment. Writ to the persons to whom the said Commissioners were to apply.]

Trusty and welbeloved, Forasmuch as in ctaine matiers that gretely touchin and concernen pe good wele and worship of us our landz lordships and subgittz we have willed our cōmissaires berers herof to cōmune w^t you, we wol desir and pray you therfore htely pat in such pingz as pat pey or any of peim wol shewe declar and sey unto you on our behalf ye wol yeve unto hem and to ech of hem ful feith and credence, and we pray you pat ye leve not pis as ye wol pe good wele and worship above saide. Yeven under our prive seal at Westm pe xx. day of Juyl. A° &c. xxiiij^to.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 123. *Original* Minutes.
Minutes of the Council, . . . July, 24 Hen.VI. 1446.]

M^d þ^t þe Mair̃ ⁊ aldremeñ of Londoñ complaigne hē upoñ þe grete imposic̃ons þ^t beth putte ~~uꝑ~~ on þe poeple of Londoñ þ^t is to sey.

~~Upoñ~~ [by] þe ~~wolle~~ pakkers þ^t ~~take~~ [ferme þ^t office for] xlviij. ł̃i. by yer̃.

~~Upoñ~~ [by] þe gauger þ^t taketħ iiij. đ. for þe gauging of ev͡y toñ ⁊ many oþ͡ ⁊c.

~~Upoñ~~ [by þe] wyn drawers.

~~Upoñ~~ [by] þoccupac̃on of garbeling ⸝ the whicħ ~~alle~~ [abovesaiđ ꝑsones] ferme þeir̃ officꝭ to meñ of liteł̃ haveour̃ ⁊ valeur̃ to þe grete charge of þe poeple ~~⁊ hurte to~~

Sir̃ Joħn Stewarđ to be spoke w^t.

Also þei seyeñ þ^t at Blanke Chapeltoñ þ͡ is maađ ~~placꝭ~~ [sev͡all placꝭ] to pleye at þe ~~teneys~~ balle ⸝ at þe cleche ⸝ at þe dys ⸝ ⁊ also þ͡ is useđ þ͡e as is [useđ] at þe stewes betwix meñ ⁊ wōmeñ ⸝ and also þ^t þei use courtꝭ ⁊c. ⁊ seintwarye into þe hurte ⁊ p͡judice of þe citee.

Also þei in Seint Martyns wol not souffr̃ þe strang͡s in Seint Martyns to paie þe imposic̃ons þ^t þei sholde paie by auctoritee of parlemēt.

Also þei ~~sey~~ complaigne of a man of Bredstret þ^t was take into þe Towr̃ as þ^t he walkeđ on þe warf þ͡e ⸝ and oñ þ^t was not worth iiij. đ. entređ a plainte upoñ hī of iiij^c. marc̃ ⸝ so þ^t but yif he hađ be pleggeđ oute þe hastier it [⁊ deliv͡eđ oute of p^isone] by þe mene of my Lorđ of Glouc̃ ⸝ it [hađ] be lyke þ^t ħe sholđ have be condempneđ in iiij^c. marc̃ by þe artific͡s dwelling in þe Towre.

Comisf of pees f Joħn Stewarđ Lokwode
Mortim͡s bille.

* f. 126. ~~þe convenc̃on~~ [þe K'] to be ~~betwix~~ [at] Maunt [ꝛ his uncle at] Melant ~~at þe K' comyng at a day to þe K' beyin~~ ⸗ at þe K' arrivaill to sende hˢ ambassadeurs to ~~mete wᵗ þembassadours of hˢ uncle at a~~ [hˢ uncle . . . . . ~~for þe~~ þei to appointe þe day of þe convenc̃on ꝛ þe place.

Advisamentū dñoꝝ. In cas ~~þe K'~~ of þe prorogac̃on from all Halowentyde unto March ⸗ the K' wol be þꝫe to holde an inconvenc̃on betwix Maunt ꝛ Melant [on þe river] at such day ꝛ place as shal be appointed ⸗ wher̃for̃ anoñ þe K' upoñ hˢ arrivaill ~~wh~~ wol sende to hˢ said uncle hˢ ambassadeurs.

* f. 126 b. * The Kyng wol þᵗ hˢ lres undr̃ his pⁱve seal be directed to ꝑ Th Stanley to carie ꝛ do to be caried by land ꝛ by water Elianer̃ Cobham[1] in þisle of Man ⸗ and þꝫe þᵗ he rule her̃ as he hath yeve him in cōmandemēt.

It̃ he wol þᵗ all þoo ꝑsones þᵗ had wagꝭ fees or officꝭ for ꝛme of lyf of þe graunte of þe Duc of Warrewyk þᵗ ded is ⸗ þᵗ þei have lres of confirmac̃on þꝫof undr̃ his gret seal during þe meindr̃ age of Anne douzter ꝛ heir̃ to þe said Duc.

It̃ he wol þᵗ my Lord of Chichestr̃ keꝑ of his pⁱve seal ꝛ þe Baroñ of Dudley whom he sendeth now in hˢ ambassade into Fraunce unto hˢ uncle of Fraunce have wagꝭ according to þeir̃ estatꝭ for iij. monethes ⸗ to be paied of such mōnoies as remaigne in þe Clerc of þe Hanaꝑes handꝭ ~~for þe deliꝛancꝭ~~ of hˢ receitꝭ in þe hanaꝑie by force ꝛ vertue of his office.

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[1] On the 26th October, 22 Hen. VI. 1443, she was ordered to be conveyed from the castle of Chester to Kenilworth. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 45.

It̃ he wol þ^t ꝼ Rich̄ Wydeville whom he hath̄ sende in h^s message ij. tymes to Caleys ⁊ hath̄ retourned̄ ayen to him have by *wey* of reward̄ c. l̄i. for h^s laboures costꝭ ⁊ expeñ ⸗ ⁊ þ^t on all̄ þe above þingꝭ l̄res undr̃ h^s p^ive seal be maad̄ in due fourme.

. . . . ~~⁊ þ⸗upoñ a l̄re to ꝼ Th̄ of Stanlee~~ . . . . . ~~of my Lord̄ of Warr̃ of þeim þ^t had̄ ⁊me of lyf wagꝭ for iij. monethes. Ric̃ Wideville ij. at Caleys.~~

[*Ibid.* f. 127. 19th July, 24 Hen.VI. 1446.]

The xix. day of Juyl þe xxiiij. yer̃ ⁊c. at Westm̃ in þe Sterr̃ Chamber.

The Cardinal of York Caunꝯbury Chichestr̃.

It is advised̄ ~~þ^t Michel~~ by my Lordꝭ þe Chaunceller ⁊ Suff ⁊ P^ive Seal þ^t Michel de Parys þe K' secretarie shal have for h^s being her̃ seth̄ Cristemasse ⁊ for h^s going hom now in þe Kyngꝭ message l. marc̃.

[*Ibid.* 20th July, 24 Hen.VI. 1446.]

The xx.^c day

Eboꝝ Cant̃ Chichestr̃.

Be þꝯ maad̄ l̄res directed̄ to M' Rob̄t Monter clerc of þe hanap to paie to þe Bisshop̃ of Chichestr̃ kep of þe p^ive seal ⁊ to Joh̄n lord̄ Dud

pdoñs usq, xv^a. Martini ⸗ Blassevile xl. marc̃ ⸗ xxxiij. l̄i.

f. 127 b. * My lordꝭ counsail of York ⸗ þ^t is to sey ⸗ Scales Oldehal ⁊

It is answered̄ to hē þ^t þe K' entent þ^t my Lord̄ of York̄ have cc. speres w^t þe bowes ⁊ to endente at Michelmasse ⁊ have paiement in hande for iij. monethes ⸗ ⁊ aft̄ þ^t from moneth̄ to moneth̄ þ^t is to sey for þe *said̄* *iij.* monethes after þe wagꝭ of England̄ ⁊ for þe second̄

quart after þe wage of Fraunce, and þ^s retenue to be redy warnyng þ^t shal be maad to my said Lord.

Hou many shippe shal be ordeined for þe K' goyng.

~~Ro.~~ ~~iij~~^xx.

And ayenst what tyme.

And wheder þei shal come.

M^d' þ^t shippe be put undr̃ arrest for þe K' goyng, and þ^t it be writen to my Lord Tref to wite of þe K' hou many, wheder þei shal come, and ayenst what tyme.

My Lord of Chichestr̃ ⁊ þe Lord Dudley þe K' ambassadeurs shal have þeir̃ wage for iij. monethes, by way of reward, ⁊ xx. li. for þeir̃ shipping.

Thinstrucc̃on was rad ⁊ passed.

~~Themba~~ Gartier to go w^t þembassadeurs ⁊ a p^rsuyvant.

Thambassadeurs shal have lres w^t hē to þe K' uncle ⁊ [to] oþ ⁊ also þ^t þei have lres of famuliaritee to all þe cappitaignes in Nor^die.

xx. li. for shipping.

* f. 128. * Gartier shal have for þ^s goyng as he had last and Coler shal have ~~x. marc̃~~ as he hath had befor̃.

The bisshope ⁊ abbote [p^iourę archedeaknes] to be treted to paie þe dismes befor̃, and þ^t þei in semble wyse trete þeir̃ clergie and [vj. ~~iiij.~~] c̃tain men to be deputed þ to, ⁊ also to make chevissance, ~~⁊ þ^t her̃upon̄~~ and to make ~~the ass~~ assignement of þe second graunte in þe plement, and ~~her~~ for þ^s to be don̄ þ most be conceived a good instrucc̃on to þe vj. psones.

It̃ my Lord Chauncellr seide to þerle of Ormond þat þe Kyng had cōmaunded ⁊ charged him to cōmaunde þe

same [Erle] after þe tenor of a cedule ~~wherof~~ þt þe K' sende unto hī, wherof þe teneur is such as foloweth [and so he charged þe same Erle.]

Md' þt þerle of Ormond be cōmaunded upon peine of his ligeance and forfaiture of all þat he may forfaite to þe Kyng, þt he passe not xl. myles aboute London, but yif it be to þe pilgrimages of Cauntbury, til he have opwyse in cōmandement of þe Kyng, and to be redy to answer afor þe Kyng and his counsail by due t resonable warnyng, the which cōmandement þe said Erle seyde þt he wolde obeie, t so he swor it, and payed my lord of þe Kyng cōsail to have it exemplified undr hs pive seal, the which was granted to him.

A ptestacon of my Lord Pive Seal ~~comisf~~ [instruct] for Wrc.

* f. 128 b. * Also my Lord Pive Seal asked þe Sherriefs of London þt now be, yif þt þei asked any scuage of þe Janneys but for þs yer.

And þei said nay.

He asked hē also, what as þei supposed was due unto hē for þe tyme þt þei had be sherriefs, and þei seyde þei knewe not for ctain.

[*Ibid.* f. 129. 22nd July, 24 Hen. VI. 1446.]

The xxij. day of Jul at my Lord Card place of York, it was cōmanded by him þe M'ques of Dors t þe Pive Seal þt Michel ds Parys secretair shold have of reward for hs going now wt þembassedeurs x. marc.

## ACTA DE ANNO VICESIMO QUINTO.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 230. *Original.*

Writ to the Keeper of the privy seal, 19th October, 25 Hen. VI. 1446. The appeal to which this and some of the following articles relate is thus noticed in Stow's Chronicle by Howes, p. 385: "John David appeached his master William Catur, an armurer dwelling in S. Dunstons parish in Fleet Street, of treason, and a day being assigned them to fight in Smithfield, the master being welbeloved, was so cherished by his friends, and plied so with wine, that being therewith overcome was also unluckily slain by his servant; but that false servant (for he falsely accused his master) lived not long unpunished, for he was after hanged at Tyborne for felony." See also Fabian's Chronicle, edition 1811, p. 618; and Hall's Chronicle, edition 1809, p. 207.]

By the King.

REVEREND fader in God right trusty and welbeloved, For asmoche as John Davy hath nowe late appelled before the Constable and Marschal of this oure reaume of Englande oon William Catour of London armurer of traison ymagyned & doon by hym ayeinst oure persone, for which cause the said Constable and Marschal have by thassent of bothe parties assigned a day of bataille unto theym as lawe wol, we therfore wol and charge you that under our prive seel being in yor warde ye do make oure lres of warrant in deue forme directed unto oure welbeloved squier John Stanley sergeant of our armury, charging hym to do make and ordeigne in al goodly haste good and souffisant armure for the said appellant and al other harneys and wapen necessary unto hym in that behalve. And over this we wol that under our said pive seel ye do make oure other lres sevelles in deue forme directed unto f John Steward f John Astley knight Edmond Hampden and Thomas Montgomory squiers and to Thomas Parker armurer, to be intendant

and of conseil with the said appellant, and semblable lres unto ℓ Thomas Gray ℓ Robert Shotesbroke knyghtℓ Johñ Lovell & Johñ Sharppe squiers & to Harman armurer dwelling in Southwerk, to be intendant and of conseil with the said partie defendant as the cas requireth, and thees oure lres shal be your warrant. Yeven under our signet at our castel of Wyndesore the xix. day of Octobr the yere of our regne xxv.

W. Crosby.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. i. f. 231. *Original.*

Letter from the King to Philip Treher, fishmonger, of London, dated 16th November, 25 Hen. VI. 1446.]

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved, For asmoch as Johñ Davy hath nowe late appelled before þe Conestable and Marshall of þis our reaume oon Williã Catour of Londoñ armurer, of tresoñ ymagined and dooñ ayenste oure psone, for whiche cause þe said Conestable and Marshall have by þassent of bothe pties assigned unto þeim a day of bataylle as lawe wol, we þfore wol and charge you þat *ye* be intendaunt and of counsaill with þe said Johñ Davy appellant, and þees our lres shall be youre warrant. Yeven at Westm þe xvj. day of Novembr.

To Philiþ fysshemonger.

(*In dorso.*) xvj. day of Nov . . . . &c. xxv^to^. it was . . . . þe lordes of þe c . . . lres shulde be dir . . . . . Philiþ fysshemon . . . . . to entende and . . . . wiþ Johan Davy after þe forme . . . . writeñ.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 231. *Original.*

Letter from the King to Master Hugh Payne and John Latimer, 14th December, 25 Hen. VI. 1446.]

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved. For asmoche as Joħn Davy hatħ nowe late appeled before þe Conestable and Marshal of this oure reaume of Englande ooñ William Catour̃ of London armurer, of tresoñ ymagined and dooñ ayenste oure ꝑsone; for whiche cause þe said Constable and Marshall have by þassent of bothe ꝑties assigned unto þeim a day of batayll as lawe wol, we wol þꝰfore and charge you þat ye be intendaunt and of counsaill witħ þe said William Catour defendant as þe cas requireth, and þees our̃ l̃res shal be your̃ warrant. Yeven at Westm̃ þe xiiij. day of Decembr̃.

To Maistꝰ Hugħ Payne.
To Joħn Latemer̃.

(*In dorso.*) xiiij°. day of . . . anno ꝯc. xxv^to^. it was . . . . . lordes of þe counsail . . . . sevꝰalles shulde be . . . . . persones . . . . . .

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 231. *Original* draught.

Letter from the King to the Earl of Ormond, about November or December, 25 Hen. VI. 1446. "Thomas Fitz Thomas, prior of Kilmaine, appeached Sir James Butler earl of Ormond of treasons, which had a day assigned to fight in Smithfield; the lists were made, and the field prepared; but when it came to the point, the King commanded they should not fight, and took the quarrel into his hands, which was done at the instance of certain preachers and doctors of London, as Master Gilbert Worthington, parson of St. Andrews in Holborn, and other." Stow's Chronicle by Howes, p. 385, and Fabian's Chronicle edition 1811, p. 618.]

By þe Kyng.

~~TRUSTY and welbeloved~~, For as moche as we have understande ~~of~~ [on] your behalf that it were right necessary

for you ~~by~~ befor̃ the day of ~~your̃~~ [~~the~~ yo^r] bataile to be hadde in Smythefeld̃ to be for a certaine tyme negħ to the said̃ Smythefeld̃ for youre brething ~~of~~ [and] more ease ayenst the said̃ day ⸗ we wol and lycence you ~~so to be~~ by thees our̃ l̃res so to be [undr̃ the charge ꝯt goev̊nance of our rizt trusty and rizt welbeloved̃ cousin þe Duc of Excestr̃ constable of our̃ Tour of Londoñ] latyng you wite that by our̃ other l̃res undre our̃ prive seel [we] have yeve in cōmawndem̃t to our̃ ~~righ̃t trusty and righ̃t welbeloved̃~~ [said̃] cousyn ~~the Duc of Excestr̃ constable of our Towre of London~~ to ~~m~~ delivere you out of the said Towr̃ and make you be brought to such̃ a place negħ the said̃ Smythefeld̃ as ye shal be and abyde þer inne [~~undr̃ h^s charge ꝯt gov̊enance~~] unto þe tyme of the said̃ bataile.

To the Erle of Ormond̃.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 231. *Original* draught.

Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter; about November or December, 25 Hen.VI. 1446. See the preceding article.]

Righ't trusty and righ̃t welbeloved̃ cousyn ⸗ ~~For asmuche ꝯc. ut sup^a~~ We by our̃ other l̃res undre our̃ prive seel write unto the Erle of Ormond̃ in man̊e [as] ~~þat~~ folowetħ ⸗ ~~Trusty ꝯc.~~ [Forasmuche ꝯc.] ⸗ wherfor we wol and by þees our̃ l̃res yeve you licence power and auctorite ~~to deliv̊e out of our said̃~~ that ~~byfor~~ ij. dayes befor þe day of bataille or at eny tyme withinne ~~þat~~ that the seid̃ Erle wol desire his going out of the said̃ Towr̃ to any place negħ Smythefeld̃ fro whens he wo come to þe said̃ bataile: that ye make him surely and safly be brought therto ⸗ and ther̃ [undr̃ yo^r warde ꝯt goev̊nance] to be saufly and surely kept ~~by you and at~~

undre youꝛ keping and ~~by you and yourys~~ charge be brought to Smythefeld ~~unto þe tyme~~ at þe tyme of þe saiꝺ bataille.

To þe Duc of Excestꝛ.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 231. *Original.*

Writ to the Keeper of the privy seal, dated 28th December, 25 Hen.VI. 1446. *Vide* the preceding articles.]

By the King.

Reverend fader in Goꝺ right trusty and welbeloveꝺ, For asmoch as we in consideracion of thattendance and labours that oure welbeloveꝺ Philip Treher fyshmonger hath haꝺ by oure sp̃al cōmandement, aswel in teching certain pointꝯ of armis unto the Prioꝛ of Kilmayn which late appelleꝺ þerl of Ormonꝺ of [hault] treason as in teching and counselling Joh̃n Davy which late hath appeleꝺ oon Joh̃n Catour armorer of treason also, have yeven unto hym xx. ℔. by weye of rewarꝺ to be taken by the handes of oure Tresorer of Englanꝺ, we wol and charge you þat under ouꝛ pᵛe seel being in youꝛ warde ye do make oure ℔res directeꝺ unto ouꝛ saiꝺ Tresorer and the Chamberlayns of ouꝛ eschequier, cōmanding them to paye unto þe saiꝺ Philip̃ þe saiꝺ xx. ℔. by weye of rewarde in redy money or ellis to yeve him suffisant assignement of the same, and þeese ouꝛ ℔res shal be youꝛ warrant. Yeven under ouꝛ signet at oure castel of Wyndesore the xxviij. day of Decembre þe yere of oure regne xxv.

Blakeney.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 132. *Original.*

Minutes of the Council, 19th March, 25 Hen.VI. 1447.]

R. H[1].

THE Kyng woll̄ þat l̄res be writen to þe Kyng of Scottꝭ rehercyng þe attemptatꝭ ayenst þe trieues ⸗ requiryng him to kepe the saide trieues ⸗ and if he or his ꝑtende hem grieved̄ ⸗ that cōmissairs be deputed̄ of both þe parties for reformac̃on of attemptatꝭ.

It̃m þat l̄res be writeñ to þe Con^bles ⁊ oth̄r havyng places in Wales þ^t þey see to þe savegard̄ of þe saide places as þey woll̄ answere to þe K'.

It̃m þat l̄res be writeñ to þe Cap^ne of Berwyk þat he in his own ꝑsone go þidre for þe savegarde of þe saide place ⸗ and oþ̄ꝫe l̄res to þe souldeours þ̄ꝫe to be here in Estre ꝯme next cōmyng ⸗ at which tyme þey shall̄ have an answere upon such̄ thingꝭ as þey ass̄k as by reason þey shall̄ hold̄ hem content.

It̃m where as þe citee of Bourdeaulx prayeth̄ þe K' to yeve his consent to þelect chosen by þe cōvent of þabbey of Seynt Croix in Bourdeaulx ⸗ þe Kyng is content w^t þis elecc̃on ⁊ cōmaundeth̄ þ^t þ̄ꝫupon l̄res be writen to þe citee of Bourdeaulx ⁊ þe saide convent ⸗ ⁊ also oth̄r l̄res to our holy fadre þe Pope to confirme þe saide elecc̃on ⁊ to revoke all̄ þat hath̄ be done in providyng of þe saide monasterie to any oþ̄ꝫe ꝑsone.

It̃m þe Kyng woll̄ þat þe lordes of his consail ⁊ such̄ oth̄r as shall̄ be thought gode to my Lorde Chanc̃ be writeñ to ⸗ to be her̃ in þe begyñȳg of þe next ꝯme ⁊ at such̄ tyme as þambassato^rs of þe K' uncle shall̄ be here.

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[1] The King's autograph.

Itm the K' wolt that þe feliship of Hanze of Almayne have a safegarde for iij. yere next cōmyng, so þat þey be not vexed by vertue of any lre of marque graunted or to be graunted, but þat þey may resorte into þis lande freely w^t^ þeir m̄chandises, paiyng þeir custumes & devoirs.

Itm þe K' wolt þat Colyer [p^r^f] have by weye of reward x. mark & þe Duc of Orliaunce poursyvaunt c. s̄.

Itm to a Fraunchman late sent from þe Kyng^e^ uncle þe which come to þe K' to Bury c. skut^e^ by wey of reward.

And þe Kyng wolt þat þarticles abovesaide be extended in ample & large fo^r^me as it shalt be thought necessair, with clauses accustumed & behovefull, and this cedule be suffisant warrant to þe Keper of his pryve seal.

Itm where a cōmissiō was made to certaine psones for repoisage of wolt at þe staple of Caleys, þe Kyng wolt þat it be revoked & lres to be writen to þe felishiþ of þe saide staple to þeir cōforth, and þ^t^ þis article be extended as above.

R. H.[1]

Apud Westm̄ xix^o^. Marcii a^o^ xxv^to^.

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[1] The King's autograph.

## Acta de Anno Vicesimo septimo.

[Additional MS. 4610. art. 7. a modern *Transcript.*

Answer of the King and the Council to certain articles delivered by Garter King of Arms on behalf of the Duke of Somerset, lieutenant general of France, 30th October, 27 Hen.VI. 1448.]

Here followen thanswers unto tharticles which Gartier King of Armes declared by way of credence unto the King our soveraign lord and my lords of his counsail, on the behalfe of the high and mighty prince my lord the Duk of Somerset the King's lieutenant generall of his reaume of France and duches of Normandy and Guyenne and other my lords the King's ambassat[rs] now being in thoo parties.

Furst forasmoche as it hath ben accustumed in other instructions the commissarys to use tharticles of thair instructions in such ordre as it seemed them moost expedient, that it like the King to declare what his ambassatours shal doe at this time.

Answer. Forasmoch as the said ambassatours may perceive know and understand many things there such as be not in the knowledge of the King nor of my lords of his counsail, and by the things conceive what ordre shall be thought to them is moost covenable and expedient to be observed and kept for the good of the principal matiere in uttring of thoo things that ben conteigned in the articles of thair instruction, the King wol that in uttering of the said things thay kepe such ordre as shall be thought to thair discretions moost expedient.

ITEM how men shall demene thaim anenst the commissaries of Bretaigne sithen they wol not intend but in compaigny of the Kings uncle.

ANSWERE. It is thought to the King by thadvis of his councel that in this matiere consideration is to be had to the othes made by the Duke of Bretaigne that dede is, by his brethern, his soones, and by the barons and notable persones of his duchie to the King, as it appereth by thaire lettres patentes, the which shall be redy to be shewed when ever the case shall require it: from theffect of which lres nor of the bond growne to the King therby in their persones it nis not the Kings intent in any wise to departe or doe any thing that may be p̄judiciall thereto. And forasmoche in eschewing of any such p̄judice and also in eschewing of any open troubling of the tretee to be had betwix thambassatours of both partys at this time, it semeth that the Kings ambassatours shall mowe desire to have speche apart w^th^ such as shall be sent thider from the Duk of Bretaigne and lay the said things before thaim and thereupon ground a reqūest according to reson in this matiere, and in especialle require of theim that if thai wol be p̄sent in the said tretee thay be there as partie with the King and as the same othes and lres made by thaim ask and require, and thain if so be they wol in noe wise entend to this request but wol algates desire to be present in the tretee as with and for that other partie, the said ambassatours shall rather than the principall tretee shall be letted, use and make such protestation or protestations as shall be thought to thair discretions covenable and behovefull to eschew by any prejudice that shold mowe growe in this matiere to the King by thaire said presences.

ITEM as to tharticle to keep the matiere from rupture, how and by what mean the said ambassatours shall mowe soe do.

ANSWERE. How be it that the said ambassat[rs] after communication had with thambassat[rs] of that other partie shall mowe better feel how the principal matier shall mowe be kept out of rupture than it is possible to the King and my lordes here to feele, nevertheless it is thought to the King and his counsail here that among other meens that shall mowe serve to keep the matiere out of rupture, oon might be to entend to prorogation of thaire assamble to as long a day and tyme as shal mowe be accorded between thaim, under the which prorogac̃on thambassat[rs] of either party shal mowe resort agen to their princes and make report unto thaim of communications had betwix the said ambassato[rs] and of the difficultees that they feel in the matiers, the which time hanging, either of the princes shall mowe if it like them send to other for easing of the said difficultees or sum other good and godly wayes be found by the which the matiere shall be kept in good hope and out of rupture.

The w[ch] Answers the King our said sov̄ain lord wol that his said ambassatours use for their instrucc̃on in this behalfe. In witness whereof the same our sov̄aine lord hath do be put hereto his grete and prive seels. Yeven at Westm̃ the xxx. day of Octobre the yere of his raigne xxvij.

[*Ibid.* art. 15.

Letter from the King to the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Westmoreland, the Lords Clifford, Greystock, Dacre, and others, dated 3rd February, 27 Hen. VI. 1449.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cousin we grete you vel. It nedeth not to remembre you sith open experience sheweth, of what evellwylle malice and untoward disposition the Scotts ben of toward us this oure reaume and subgetts, which dayly by alle the wayes and meenes they can and may practise, enforceth thaim to the noyance and hurte thereof, and namely of oure marches towards thaim; to whoos resistence if it be not diligently vt effect entended and purveyed grete inconvenience nyght and were like to ensewe, that God defende. And forasmoche as now the xij. day of this present moneth oure parlement is limitted to be begunne at oure paloys of Westm̃, in the which is requisite to be th'astats of oure lande spirituell and temporell, never ye lesse in by such occasion oure said Marches sholde lack the presence of you and oyere suche as have enterest yere, t shold nowe be unto ye said Scotts the gretier bolde nesse and encourraging more bysely to putte yaim in heir devoir for the acchiving of yaire said malicious purpos and entent. Wherefore to eschewe alle perill that night fall, we wol desyr and pray you hertely yt both for oure and youre availle ye dispose you and effectuelly entende upon and about the seure and saufkepyng of oure said Marches and resistence of ye malice of oure said evel wyllers, latyng you wite yt in this doing we shall have you fully for excused of youre not cõmyng to oure saide parlement. And we pray you yt ye leve

not this as oure singuler trust ys on you and as ye desire oure honeur and worship welfare and seurete of oure said Marches. Yeven undre oure prive seal at Westm̃ the iij^de. day of Feverer anno &c. xxvij°.

To y^e Bishop of Dureham
To th'Erle of Westmerlande
To the Lord Clyfford
To the Baron of Graystok
To the Lord Dacre
To the Lord Ponyngs
To the Lord Fitzhugh
To y^e Lord Scrope of Bolton.

To S^r Thomas Percy
To S^r John Nevyll
To S^r Thomas Nevyll
To S^r Thomas Lumley

} Knights.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui consilii.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 94. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 18th February, 27 Hen. VI. 1449.]

To the Kyng oure sov̄aigne lord.

R. H.[1]

Besechith' mekely youre humble & contynuell oratour̃ & bedemañ William Strete monke of the ordre of Seint Benet in the abbay of Glastonbury, that where as he nowe late for þe more quiete & rest of his soule pursewed & hath of oure holy fader the Pope his gracious bulles of amigracioñ, that is to say, for your̃ said suppliaunt to be exempt & discharged from the said abbey and to goo and be resident in an oþ̄ place of lyke ordre or in an

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[1] The King's autograph.

harder ordre to þentent þe more devoutly to serve and please Almighty Goď ⸗ and your̃ gracious licence þerupoñ not hadde ne purchaceď ⸗ wheryñ he dowtith̃ him þat he hath̃ offendeď your̃ high̃nes. Please hit þ͛fore your̃ saiď high̃nes of your̃ especiall̃ ꝫ benigne grace the premisses tenderly consideredꝫ to graunt unto your̃ saiď oratour̃ your̃ gracious l̃res patentz of ꝑdoñ in þis ꝑtie in sure ꝫ lawfull̃ fourme to be made ⸗ atte reꝟence of Goď and in wey of charitee. And he shall̃ pray specially Goď for you.

The Kyng hath graunteď this byll at Westmynstre the xviij. day of Feverere the yere of his regne xxvij. at the suyt of Joh̃n Penycook̃ ꝑsente Ph̃e Wentworth and Joh̃n Say.

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[Additional MS. 4610, art. 16. a modern *Transcript.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 28th February, 27 Hen. VI. 1449.]

To the King our soveraign lord.

Mekely besechen your highnesse your trewe oratoures Dame Margarete Lyle late prioresse of Rowney in Hertfordshire with hur sustrell your fowndyď bedewomen ⸗ compleyning lamentably unto your soverainete ⸗ that whereas your seid besechers may not have noo preste to pray for your noble astate and prosperity and for all ther good doers ⸗ but yf thei wold have a yonge preste ⸗ the which were not covenable for hem ⸗ or ellys askyn so moche and grete salary that it is importable for them to bere.

Please your noble soveraigne and benigne grace there as your said besechers may have a good old frere mynour callyd Frere John Tyvnham the which is a good prechour and is ther goostly fader and of good conversation, and desireth of grete devotion to doo divine service there in that place for the moche love and devowtnesse that the people hath to here his techyng and prechyng, that been vicines there next aboughte, to the grete comforte and reliefe of the people and of Godds service.

That it like your good grace tendrely to considre the p̄misses and of your habundant grace for there ese and encresyng of Godds service, to send youre lettre of privy seale unto Frere Thomas Rodenore doctor and provyncial mynistyr, he to amytte the foresaid Frere John Tyvnham his lettre of obedience to be redy and entendaunt to your seid besechers and to the said house of Rowney, soe that Godds service may encrece and the better be done and ze most especiall and all there good doers the better prayed for, and this to take effect now in this holy tyme at the reverence of God and for charite.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum concilii ultimo Februarii anno &c. xxvij°. Westm̄.

T. Kent.

[Bibl. Cotton. Galba, B. i. f. 151. *Original.*

Instructions issued on the 17th March, 27 Hen. VI. 1449, to William Pirton esquire, lieutenant of Guisnes, and Edward Grimston esquire, the commissioners who were to treat with the Duchess of Burgundy. These persons, with several others, were appointed to negociate with that princess for a reformation of attempts made against the truce on the 8th of May following. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 230.]

INSTRUCCON yeven̄ by the King oure soveraine lorde unto his trusty and welbeloved̄ squyers William Pirton lieutenant of Guysnes and Edwarde Grymeston whome he sendeth at this tyme to his cousin the Duchesse of Bourgoigne and to yither of þaim.

Furste thai shal with reverence convenable present theire l̄res the which̄ among other thinge conteyne credence, and in opening of theire credence thay shal saye in substance as foloweth̄, with̄ as good̄ termes and langage as God̄ and thaire discrecons shal yeve tham with such̄ circūstances as shalbe thought expedient.

And proceding ferther thay shal mowe say that it is not unknowen unto hir that afore this tyme thentrecourse of marchandise hath̄ hadde his place betwix the Kinge people landes and lordeshippes and people landes and lordshippes there, the which hath ben to the greet profite and welfare of both parties and greetly chirisshed̄ love and frendeship on bothe parties, and the King is well̄ content and alle way hathte to do his parte that alle thing be as it hath be withoute þ^t any noveltees be hadde on his side, thinging þat þat other partie sholde do the same. And therfore he mervailleth̄ what sholde sture or be the causes or meanes of such ordenance and phibicons as be nowe made by the said̄ Duchesse that non Englisshe cloth be brought, solde or uttred̄ in

Hoilanꝺ Zellanꝺ and oꝑ places of hir obeisance whereas it hath be useꝺ afore this tyme.

Item thay sal mowe remembre that aswel that in thappointementꝯ made afore this tyme betwix the King and thaim of Holanꝺ and Zelande ꝛc[a]. as in the trewes taken by my Lorde of Yorke in the Kingꝯ name with hir cõmisaires at Roon, divers tymes sithen̄ prorogeꝺ, it is conteigneꝺ expressely that alle marchandises sholde freely have his cours betwix bothe parties without any lette or disturbance.

Item the same is also conteineꝺ in the trewes taken and yit enduring betwix the King and his oncle of France, in the whicℏ the King understandeth the saide Duchesse is comprisꝺ, and therfore not withoute cause the King mervailleth̄ of the saiꝺ ordinance so ayenst the frendeship thappointementꝯ ꝛt also divers trewes.

Item the saide ordenance is ayenst the custume long tyme observed, for it canne not be remembreꝺ but at alle tymes it hath̄ be señ useꝺ Englisℏ clothe to resorte and have his uttrance in Hollande Zellanꝺ and other places where it is nowe forboden.

Item thay shal mowe saye that the nature of trewes wol and is thentent therof that alle marchandise sholꝺ have his cours, and marchantꝯ to have theiꝛ cõicacõn eche witℏ other, and if it so were that an ordenance mygℏt be made for the stoppinḡ of oo maner of marchandise in like wyse it myght be extended to another, and so to alle, and by that meane alle marchandise seese and the trewe remayne of noon effect nor ease to the subgettꝯ.

Item if it be saide that this matier mygℏt be easeꝺ at suche tyme as it sholꝺ be spoke of the restitucõn of attemptatꝯ, it may be saide that it is thougℏt that the

saide ordennance may not be called attemptate nor comprised in the matier therof, but is directly enervacon of the trewe and contrary thereto and in no wise reformable lesse then it be revoked.

Item thay shal remembre that for that for the putting downe and to set aside the saide ordinance, the King hath many tymes and ofte writen to the said Duchesse and sent also notable persones with credence to will and sture hir by suche meanes as thay couth to the revocacon thereof, and yit alle this not withstanding it is not perceived that any remedy ys sett or ordeined, to the greet hurt and damage of the Kinge people.

Item thay shal mowe say that where as nowe the King hath called the iij. astate of his lande and thay be assembled at the citee of Londoñ for his parlement, pe said iij. astate have piteuously complayned [1] upoñ the saide ordenance and mekely besought the Kinge good grace that he wold ordeigne and stablish that withoute the saide ordenance without delay or taring wer̃ putte asyde that ther shold no marchandise of the saide contrees be brought receyved nor attempted in this lande, but be forfaited in caas it be brought hider, and here upoñ thai shal in the Kinge behalf desire and also requir̃ the saide Duchesse that the ordinance abovesaid be anullid revoked and set aside so that the King have no cause to entende to thexecucon of the said request.

Item for asmoch as it is said and the voise of the people renneth that ther shalbe not long to certain armes at Seint Omers and undre that colour greet numbre of people like to assemble, and also that divers abilimente of werre ben ordeigned and made in divers places of thac

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 150, 151.

›beisance ⸗ the said̄ ambassatours shal mowe of their̄ owne elf speke and comune upon̄ this matier and fele by alle he meanes thai canne to wat entent the said̄ thing be ›rdeigned̄ ⸗ for þe noise and renōme is that undre the aide coleure divers enterprises be ymagined̄ and take in ıande.

Item the said̄ ambassatours shal putte thaim by such̄ vyse in thair̄ devoir̄ that thay mowe bring such̄ answere n writing from the saide Duchesse as it shal like hir to ;ive to the saide matiers.

Item thai shal mowe saye that the King for thentire ove and good̄ desyre that he hath̄ to the saide Duchesse ⸗ ıath̄ proceded̄ in maner and fourme as he hath̄ in writing nd sending divers tymes as is abovesaid̄ ⸗ and used̄ no igure for the remedy of the said̄ ordennance not with̄tanding that it is so prejudicial as it is ⸗ and therfore he rusteth̄ verrayly that she consydering the honest meenes hat the King hath̄ used̄ in this behalf ⸗ without difficulte vol purvey for setting asyde of the said̄ ordennance vithout more delay ⸗ and so guyde hir in þ^t behalf þ^t þ^e King shal have no cause to oþ̄ man̄ of ꝑceding.

Item proceding furthermore thay shal as colourably as hay can ⸗ speke of thutrance of wolles at Calais ⸗ renembring the said̄ Duchesse as it were of þaim self ⸗ saying f she wolde putte therto hir hande it might be so pur-veyyed̄ by meenes that by the saide uttrance gret good̄ holde mow growe not oonly to the marchantꝭ that uttre heire woll̄ but also to the beyers therof ⸗ the whiche in ;ret part be hir subgittꝭ ⸗ and thay may say thay doubte ıot but that the King wol on his behalf so ordeine that it hal be to the plesir of the said̄ Duchesse and profite to ıir people. And if so be that the said̄ Duchesse be wel lisposed̄ and towardly in the said matiers thay shal

mowe saye that if she wol ordeyne and depute hir people aswel for the quatre membres as other to have cõicacõn upoñ the saide matiers the King wol be redy also to ordeine his cõmissaryes. In witnesse ꝛc. Yeveñ ꝛc. at Westm̃ the xvij. [illegible] xxvij.

De mandato ℞ anno ꝛ die sup^a^script̃.

T. Kent.

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[Additional MS. 4610. art. 19. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 18th March, 27 Hen.VI. 1449.]

Henri ꝛc. To the moost reverent fadre in God John archebisshop of Canterbury primat of alle Englande oure Chanceller greting. Forasmoch as in the trewes take and appointed betwix us and oure cousin the Duchese of Borgoigne, amongs other things it is conteigned that appatesing sholde seese in certaine fourme in the same appointement declared, the which notwithstanding, the souldeours of oure garneson of Crotoye have made leve and take appatisementes ayenst the saide article, for the reparation wherfore oure trusty and welbeloved William Cantelowe by oure comaundement hath payed unto the Bastard of Saint Poule the some of v^c^. marc̃, and we willing that the saide William be content in this behalf have graunted unto him paiement to be made of the said some of the dismes and quinzismes next to be graunted unto us by the comunes and clergie of this oure land, therfor . . . . . and charge you that hereupon ye doo make oure letters patentes undre oure greet seal

in due fourme. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xviij. day of Marche the yere of oure regne xxvij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui consilii, præsenť Dñis Cancell' Thes̃ Custod' privati sigill' Suff' &c. } T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 142. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 11th June, 27 Hen. VI. 1449.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, it is comeñ unto oure knowelache by credyble report howe that by occasion of suche thinge as ben saide and spredde abrode in this our lande of the evyll dysposicon and malicous purpos of the Duc of Bourgoigne and his subgette, that thay have towardys oure towne of Calais and the remenant of oure obeissance there, suche people of the Duche tongue aswel of Flandres as other contrees as ben inhabitante in our citee of Londoñ the suburbes and procint of þe same, as Sowthwerke and other places, ben trowbled spoyled and undewly vexed hurt and cruelly entreted dayly, aswel by souldiours going towarde our said towne of Calais for the defence of the same, as other people, whiche thing is ayenst God all reason and humanitee, considred tha thay bein admitted to dwell undre oure obeissance, in whiche cas nothing shewed by thaim unto the contrary, thaim ought noone otherwyse be entreted than well nor we ne wold thai were. Werfore we wol and charge you straitely that by proclamacon and otherwyse ye putt you soo in your devoir and dyligence that no moo suche exorbitances be cõmitted from hens forthe, but that re-

formacõn be made as ferforthe as ye shal mowe of þat is dooñ amisse, and that the said people may peisible withoute any suche empechement lyve and entend thair crafte and bisinesses as thay have dooñ before tyme. Yeveñ &c. at Wynchestre the xj. day of Juyñ the yere of oure regne xxvij.

To our trusty and welbeloved the Mair and sherryefs of our citee of Londoñ.

De mandato Regis p avisamentum sui consilii, p̃nt Dñis Carl' Cancell Thes Wintoñ Elieñ Wigorñ Norwic Cestr Duce Suff Cromwell Stourtoñ &c. } LANGPORT.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 94. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 2nd July, 27 Hen.VI. 1449.]

To the Kyng our sov̄ayñ lord.

BESECHITH' mekely your preest and oratour William bisshop of Coventr and Lich, that where there beñ within the counte of Chestre and in the cite of Chestre mony advowtrers fornicatours and other mysdoers ayenes the lawe of God, the which mysdoers the officers of youre seyd besecher dar not ne may not correcte ne amende within the seyd counte and cite, sõme for cause of myght of hem self and sõme for cause of mayntenance that they have of mighty meñ within the seyd counte, that it please unto your highnesse to graunt by your sev̄all lres patentz undre your grete seall of England and your seall of Chestre unto your seyd besecher, that your seyd besecher and his officers durynḡ the lyve of your

seyđ besecher ⸗ may cite and calle and make to be citeđ and calleđ oute of the seyđ shyre and cite [into any other places of his diocise] all man̄ of ꝑsones residentz and to be residentz within the seyđ shyre or cite in all̄ maner of causes and mat̄s conc̄nyng̃ and touching̃ the lawe of holy chirche ⸗ any writte or cōmaundement to your seyđ besecher or any of his officers from you afore this tyme directeđ or hereafter to be directeđ to the cont^a^rie hereof notwith̄stondyng̃ ⸗ and he shall̄ pray Gođ for you.

Secundo die Julii anno ꝯtc^a^. xxvij^mo^. sepales l̄re fūunt fc̄e sub privato sigillo prout supra desideratur.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Galba, B. I. f. 152. *Original.*

Instructions issued on the 30th July, 27 Hen.VI. 1449, to John lord Dudley and Doctor Thomas Kent, clerk of the Council, ambassadors to the Duchess of Burgundy. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 233, 234.]

R. H.[1]

Instruc̄ion yeven by the King oure soveraigne lorde unto his righ̄t trusty and welbeloved and trusty and welbeloved John lorde Duddeley his counsailler and Maister Thomas Kent doctour of bothe lawes clerc of his counsaill̄ whiche he sendeth at this tyme his ambassiatours unto his cousine [þe] Duchesse of Bourgoigne.

Furst þe saiđ ambassiatours after presentac̄on of þeir l̄res in manere and fourme and with̄ reverens accustumed ⸗ shall̄ mowe open and say that the King in shewing his good will̄ and towardnes that all̄ thingꝭ dooñ ayenst þe

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[1] The King's autograph.

treues made and hadde betwix him and þe saiđ Duchesse thereto sufficiently autorized by hir husband, which yit endure, sent nowe late to his towne of Calais his commissaries, there to assemble with þe commissaries of þe said Duchesse, the which at þeir meting had communicacon upoñ þe matiers þat [þei] were . . . . . but greet difficultees caused þat þei . . . . . full conclusion as the King hath understande by þe report of his [said] commissaries . . . . . specially for asmuch as nowe late þe Kingȩ subgettȩ have been greetly troubled and vexed in þe said Dukȩ countre in their bodies and goodȩ holdeñ under arrest committed to prison and many of þeim grevously and full cruelly entretid directly ayenst þe [ . . . . . ] of þe said treues, in the which matiers þe commissaries of þe said Duchesse affermed þat þei had not in charge nor were instruct to speke þ̄eof . . . promitted þai wolde make reporte of þaim to þe said Duc and also putte thaim in þeir devoir þat þat matier and oþ̄e delivered to . . . . . writing shulde be answered to, if þe King wolde sende to þe said Duchesse afore þe furst day of Septembre next commyng. Wherefore the Kyng contynuyng his good will and desire abovesaid sendith at this tyme to þe said Duchesse to þentent þat þe said matiers and oþir may be eased.

And hereupoñ make requeste þat þe persones of þe said marchauntȩ with þeir goodȩ be putte at full fredom withoute [þ^t] any arrest or restraint be made þ̄e upoñ or any empechement or lett yeven to þe said marchauntȩ in disposicon of þair said goodȩ or in paymentȩ to be made to hem by þe Dukȩ subgettȩ of such goodȩ or dettȩ as þei owe to the said marchauntȩ.

Item the said ambassiatours shall mowe say þat þogh it had be see þat any thing were doon or attemptated ayenst þe said treues by þe subgettȩ either of þe King

or of þe Duc, it ne were nor is lawfull to e partie ayeinst whome it were so attemptid in semble wise to committe and offende þe trewe, but make request for repacon þ̄eof like as þe trewes conteigned, wherein for þe Kingꝭ partie if any thing hath oþir wise be doon þanne ought, þei ben redy to entende to repacon if þat oþ̄ party lust to do þe same. And so þe said ambassiatours instantly shall aske afore all thing hole restitucon of þe goodꝭ of þe Kingꝭ . . . . . being there under arrest in þe obeisance of þe said Duc.

Item if þe said ambassiatours by such reasons and meanes as semeth unto theim necessarie, shall not mowe optaigne delivaunce and restitucon of þe said marchauntꝭ and goodꝭ, þai shall mowe say þai be redy to have knowlege of þe hurtꝭ þat be pretended doon to the said Dukꝭ subgettꝭ and to what sume þai extende, the which hadde by suche meanes and proves as shall be þought resonable to the said ambassiatours, þai shall mowe promitt in þe Kingꝭ name þat it shall be deuly assithed for þe said somme. And yf oþir suertee be disired, þe said ambassiatours shall mowe say if þat oþir partie thinke it be for þeim to kepe so much of þe English marchauntꝭ goodꝭ as þe said sumes drawith too undre arrest, þai may not say nay, but þay shall straunge [þaim] to consent therto, yit rather þanne rupture shulde sewe þai shall consent and appoint þat it so be to thentent þat þe marchauntꝭ and their goodꝭ be frely delivered, so þat marchandise may have cours for þe profit of boith sydes.

Item in cas þat the goodꝭ whereof þat othir partie desireth restitucon be not paventure for absence of þe partie or oþir causes, not declared nor provid, but aske a delay, the said ambassatours as above shall suffre or consent þat suche a somme of Englissh marchauntꝭ goodꝭ remaigne undre arrest as shall be þought to þair discrecionn

to þentent þat þe Englissħ marchauntꝭ may have entrecours of marchandise.

Item furthermore the saide ambassatours shall mowe saye that it is not unknowen unto the saide Duches that afore þis tyme thentrecours of marchandise hath had his place betwix þe Kingꝭ people landes ꝯt lordeshippes and þe people landes and lordeshippes ꝓ̃e ⸗ the whicħ hatħ be to greet profite and welfare of botħ parties and gretely cherisshid love and frendeship̃ on both sides ⸗ and þe King is wel content and alway hath be to doo his part þat alle þing be as it aught wᵗoute any noveltees be had in his side ⸗ þinking þᵗ þat oꝓ̃ ꝑtie sholde do þe same ⸗ and ꝓ̃for he mervailletħ what sholde sture or be þe causes or meenes of sucħ ordennaunce and prohibic̃ons as beeñ now made by þe saide Duchesse þat noon Englissħ cloth be bougħt solde or uttred in Hollande Zellande and Brabande.

Item thay shal remembre that the King hatħ sende to the saide Duchesse divꝰs tymes for revocac̃on as þe trewes wolde ꝓ̃of ⸗ and where as she certified by hir writing and paventure wol now say the same þat þe saide ordenaunce was made by thavis wille or aggrement of þe marchauntꝭ of the staple at Calais ⸗ þay shal mowe say that it canne not mowe [so] be conteined but that fully þe marchauntes of the staple had never knowlech ꝓ̃of ⸗ for þei had in examinac̃on ꝓ̃in plainly denied it ⸗ and þough it had be so þat sum of the saide m̃chauntes for theire plesire or singuler proffite wolde have desired such a thing ayenst the cōmune weel ⸗ as it cannot be knowe the King wolde not have supposed þat þe saide Duchesse wolde be moeved ꝓ̃with ⸗ and sithen þat she nowe knoweth wel þat þe King is not nor may not be contente wᵗ so prejudicial a þing and ayenst þe trewes as he understandeth ⸗ þis is as well to his subgittꝭ as otħr.

Item þei shal mowe remembr̃ þat aswel in þappointementꝭ made afore this tyme betwixt þe King and þeim of Holande Zelande &c. as in þe trewes taken̄ by my Lorde of Yorke in þe Kinges name with̄ hir cōmissaries at Roen, diu̅s tymes sethen proroged, it is conteigned expresly þat alle m̄chandise shulde frely have his cours betwixt both parties withouten any lette or desturbance.

Item þe same is also conteigned in the trewes taken and yet enduring betwixt þe King and his uncle of Fraunce, in þe which þe King understandeth þe saide Duchesse is comprised, and þ̄for not withoute cause þe King m̄veilleth of þe saide ordenaunce so ayenst þe frendshiꝑ þat pointementꝭ and also diu̅s trewes.

Item þei shal mowe say þat þe nature of trewes woll̄ and is þentent þ̄of, þat alle m̄chandise shulde have his cours and m̄chauntꝭ to have þeir̄ cōicacon̄ ech wt oþ̄, and [if] it so were þat an ordenaunce might be made for þe stopping of oo man̄ of m̄chaundise in like wise it might be extended to a noþ̄, and so to all̄, and by þat mene alle m̄chāndise cesse and þe trewe remaigne of nooñ effect nor ease to þe subgittꝭ.

Item þe saide ordenaunce is ayenst þe custume long time obſved, for it canne not be remembred but al tymes it hath be seen and used Englissh cloth to resorte and have utterānce in Hollande Zelande and Braband where it is now for bodeñ.

Item þei shal mowe remembre þat for þe putting a downe and setting a side of þe saide ordenaunce, þe King hath̄ many times and ofte writeñ to þe saide Duchesse and also sent notable persones with credence to wille and sture hir by such meanes as þei coude to þe revocacon̄ þ̄of, and yit all̄ þis notwtstanding it is not pceived þat any remedie is set and ordeined.

Item thei shal mowe sey þat þe King for thentier love and desire þat he hath to þe saide Duchesse, hath proceded in mañ and fourme as he hath in writing and sending div̄s tymes as above is saide, and used no rigour for þe remedie of þe saide ordenaunce notwithstanding þat it is so p̄judicial as it is, and p̄for he trusteth verily þat she considering þe honest meanes þat þe King hath used in þis behalf, without difficulte wol purvey for setting a side of þe saide ordenaunce withoute more delay, and so gide hir þat þe King shal have no cause to any oth̄r mañ of proceding.

Item þei shal say how þat in þe last parlement þe iij. astates of þe lande þere assembled, þe cōmunes have grevously complained [1] upoñ þe saide ordenānce, in so moch þat with grete instaunce it is passid by þe saide parlement for a decree þat if þe saide ordenaunce be not leide a side w'in a certain tyme þat p̄e shulde no m̄chandise of thobeisance of þe Duc of Bourgoigne be brought received nor accepted in this lande, but be forfaited in caas it be brought hider [as it more largly is cōteignid in the acte of parlement, the whiche thei shal mowe declare to the said Duc or Duchesse] And here upoñ þei shal desire and require þe saide Duchesse þat þe saide ordenānce be anulled and revoked in such wise as the King have no cause to procede to þexecuc̄on of the saide decree.

Item the saide cōmissaries shall remembre that the yere of oure [Lord] a m^l. ccccxlv. the ix. day of Aprill, in the towne of Bruges, were made 't appointed betwix the King^e cōmissaries and þe cōmisaries of Holland Zelland 't Friseland, certaine articles þe which þe saide Duc hath

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 150, 151.

approved ratified ꝛ confermed ⸗ and amongꝭ oþꝫ thingꝭ it was ordeined ꝛ appointed that Englissħ marchauntꝭ shuld have had in recompense of theire hurtꝭ ꝛ wronges dooñ to thaim by men of Holland Zelland ꝛ Friseland a certaine sōme of money to have be paied at certain dayes ⸗ and if any defaute happed or were in paiement þꝫof or any ꝑte thereof ⸗ thanne it shuld be lawefull to þe saide Englissħ merchauntꝭ to arrest the saide Hollanders Zellanders ꝛ Frises theire goodis and shippes and kepe þaim and aliene þe saide goodꝭ til the full contentement of þe saide sōmes witħ costꝭ and damages after þe discrec̃ons of þe Kingꝭ cōmissaries ⸗ and ov̄ þat resorte to theire hole acc̃ons that þe saide Englissħ merchantꝭ had before ayenst þe saide Hollāders Zellanders ꝛ Frises ⸗ þe whicħ þingꝭ more at large appere in thappointementꝭ made þꝫeupoñ. And sith it is soo that þe saide dayes of paiement beñ not kept but þat þai beñ past and also div̄se ꝛ many delayes desired by þe saide Duchesse ⸗ the cōmissaries abovesaide shall aske and require redy contentem̃t of þe saide sōmes due wᵗ damagꝭ ꝛ costꝭ made in þat behalf ⸗ to the whicħ if þat oþꝫ ꝑtie woll condescende þe King is content þᵗ þe saide appointementꝭ remaigne ꝛ be obfved as þey were accorded.

And if it be soo þat oþꝫ ꝑtie woll not entende þꝫto nor appointe the contentement of þe saide sōme ⸗ þe saide cōmissaries shall lat þaym wite in þe Kingꝭ behalf his wille is þat his subgittꝭ have ꝛ rejoice þe benefet of þe saide appointementꝭ þat was made ꝛ accorded if þe money were not paied at þe dayes accorded ⸗ and also þat þai be admitted to have hoole restituc̃on of þe goodꝭ take from þaim afꝛ þeffect of þe saide appointementꝭ.

Item the saide cōmissaries shall use tharticles abovesaide witħ sucħ direccioñ and circumstancꝭ as God ꝛ þaire discrec̃ons woll yeve þaim.

Item the saide ambassatours shall say þai ben redi to entende and ꝑcede in frendly wise as lawe and reason will, to the reformacon of attemptatꝛ, & þ̄ upon be redy to receyve & here the complaintz of both sides & aunssweres to þaim & do thaire ꝑte to understonde the trouthe of þe saide complayntꝛ by due & lawfull examynacon, þat is to say, þai shall see whoo it is þt complayneth & whether he be þ̄e in his owne ꝑsone or by what auctorite he apperith, and admitte no complainte w'out þe complaigner have sufficient power.

Item þei shall in examynyng þe mat̄s, receyve & admitte such proves as lawe will, not yevyng feith to thaffermacion of þe ꝑtie nor to lres testīōiall of citees townes or officers, neiþ̄ to private writyngꝛ, but to witnesses duely examyned, confession of þe ꝑties, open instrumentꝛ, open knowlache of þe dede, or oþ̄ proves suche as þe lawe will admitte or such as it shall be þought to þeire discrecons sufficient.

Item for asmuche as it is supposed þat þe Kingꝛ subgittꝛ upon whom þe complaintz ben & shall be made will not be ꝑsent, the saide ambassatours shall mowe saye þai ben redy not withstanding thabsence of þe ꝑtie to hiere þeire complaintz to fele & receyve þe proves in þat ꝑtie, & soo shall mowe do & cōmune and debate þe matier as shall be þought to þaire discrecons, absteynyng þaim in all þt þai may to condescende & yeve any jugement or sentence ayenst þe ꝑtie so absent þough it be þought mat̄ clerely proved, but if it so be þat for þe better ꝑceding in othir mat̄s or to eschewe rupture or oþ̄ inconveniences it shall be þought to the said ambassatours necessarie and behovefull to ꝑcede & yeve suche sentence. And in þt cas þai shall sai þai will

reporte it to þe King to þat entent þat execucioñ be made as þe caas shall requyre.

Item if it shall be semed expedient to the saide ambassatour thay shall mowe appointe another tyme for a gen̄al reparacon of attemptatis cōmitted by both pties as it shall be semed to þaim moost behovefull.

Item for asmuch as by the noon utteraunce of the wolles growen in this lande not oonly þe King is greetly hurt in his custumes and subsidies but also þe cōmunes of his lande growers of þe saide wolles, the which noon utteraunce is understande causid by þe direccioñ and reules not moost pfitable usid in þe staple at Calais, þe saide ambassatours shall have cōicacon wt þe saide estaple and call to þaire remembraunce þat at such tyme as nowe late in the parlement þe Maire of þe saide estaple sewid to optaigne certain articles for þe wele t ease of þe saide estaple, he pmittid in þe name of his felishiꝑ þat at such tyme as þe King wolde sende to Calais his cōmissaries, þe saide Maire t feleshiꝑ shulde be redy to entende to þe puttyng aside [of] such þinge as lette þe saide utteraunce t to ordeigne and stablissh good reules for bett utteraunce to be hadde, as it apperith by þe lres sent fro þe saide felishiꝑ to þaire Maire t by þacte of parlement. Wherefor þe saide ambassatours havyng cōicacon wt þe saide Maire and spialy wt þaim þat undrestande þem best and have moost experience in þe saide matiers, shall stere require and also cōmaunde þat þai entende effectuelly to al man̄ good reules t meanes þat shall be þought behovefull for þe saide utteraunce.

Item if it be soo þat þe quatremēbres of Flaundres wil for þe bettre meanes of utteraunce of woll to be

hadde, cõme to Calais to have cõicacioñ with þe saide Maire and felishiꝑ, the saide ambassatours shall wil and also comaunde theym þat þey honestly and frenly cõmune w^t þaim and here thaym paciently and wele considre thoffres þat þai will make, and þat þe saide estaple make to thaim such offres as þaim shall þink expedient, and the saide ambassatours shall entende appointe and conclude with þe saide quatremembres suche þinge as shall be þoght to þaim and to o^ꝑ named in þaire cõmissioñ necessarie and behovefull.

Itm thei shall use thordre abovesaid yf it shal be thought to þeime so expedient or ell oon article before a no^ꝑ as it shall be thought to þeire discrecõn moost necessarie and behovefull. In wittenesse whereof to þis ꝑnt instrucc̃on þe Kyng our said sou̯ain lord hath do be putte his greet and prive sealx. Yeveñ at Westm̃ þe xxx. day of Juill the yer of þe regne of the same our sou̯ain lord xxvij^to.

Lecta concordat et conclusa anno die mense et loco sup^adictis de mandato Regis ꝑ avisamentum sui consilii, ꝑnt d̃nis Car^li Cancell Cicestreñ Custod̃ p^ivati sigilli Abbate Gloucestrie Duddeley &c^a.

LANGPORT.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 420 b. *Original.*

Ordinances of the King, dated 18th August, 27 Hen.VI. 1449.]

R. H.[1]

THE King at Brayneford the xviij. day of Aust the yere &c. xxvij. wolde and cōmaunded warraunt to be made in due fourme [undre prive seel] unto the Tresorer and Chamberleins of theschequyer to receyve of þexecutours of Henri late Cardinal of Englande suche of the Kinge jeuelx as the said late Cardinal had in gage for the sōme of ij. m^l. xl. li. and to make assignement to þe said executours of the said ij. m^l.xl. li. upoñ the ~~disme~~ furst part of the half disme graunted unto ~~us~~ the King in the last convocacon, at suche place to be taken as þe said executours wol be content w^t.

Item the King wol that after the said Tresorer and Chamberleins have receyved the said jeuelx, that thay delivre thaim by endenture unto Reynold abbot of Gloucestre and Thomas Maunsell squyer, thay to engage thaim for as grete a sōme as thay shal mowe chevisshe þ upoñ.

Item where as for to aide the King in setting forth of þarmees the whiche the Lord Powys the Lord Zouches sone and ℔ Robert Veere knight shal lede, my Lord of Canterbury hath ꝑmissed to lene the King c. li. my Lord of Suff m^l. li. in jeuelx, my Lord Prive Seel v^c. li. in plate [to be engaged,] the King wol þ^t the said Tresorer and Chamberleins make assignemente for repayment of the said sōme of c. li. and also for thacquityng of þe said jeuelx and plate unto the said my Lorde of Suff and Prive Seel frely to be delivred upoñ the xv^me. and disme graunted unto the King in þe *last* parlement and

[1] The King's autograph.

convocacon or of pcell þof suche as thay and eviche of thaim wol be content wt, and that þeire assignementȩ so to be made be in no wise chaungeđ afterwardȩ. And [to] þentent that the saiđ Tresorer and Chaumblains shal mowe wel understande and knowe that it is the Kingȩ full will and cōmaundement that the ~~saiđ~~ thingȩ abovesaiđ and everch of thaim be fully dooñ and executeđ, the King hath signeđ this act wt his owen hande.

R. H.[1]

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## Acta de Anno Vicesimo octavo.

[Additional MS. 4610. art. 38. a modern *Transcript*.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 16th November, 28 Hen. VI. 1449.]

To the King oure souverayne lord.

R. H.

Besecheth mekely the Lord Beauchamp maistre of youre hors, that it please you to graunte yowere gracious letters under youre prive seell to the Tresorer and Barons of youre eschequer directe, commaundyng theyme be the seide letters duely to accounte with the saide Lord Beauchamp maister of your hors be his oothe or be the oothe of his depute suffisaunt alsewell of all maner of moneye be the saide Lord Beauchamp or be his depute received fro the xvth. day of Feverier the yere of youre regne xxvij. unto this tyme charged, as of alle maner hors be the saide Lord Beauchamp or be his deputees duryng this tyme unto youre use with-

[1] The King's autograph.

ynne youre reme of England purveied and bought, and of alle manere sadill and bridell and alle other harneyses longyng unto his office be the saide Lord Beaucamp or be his deputee unto youre use receyved, makyng unto the said Lord Beauchamp be the same ooth due allouance alsewell of all maner moneye be the saide Lord Beauchamp or be his deputee of youre Tresorer of England for the accate and purveaunce for the said hors receyved, and also for dyvers hors be yow to dyvers persones withynne youre reme of Englande yoven and be the said Lord Beauchamp to youre Aulmoner delyvered, and of alle maner of hors deed yn moreyne, and also for all manere of costages and expenses be the said Lord Beauchamp or be his deputees made aboute the perveaunces and the accates of the said hors bought and purveied yn dyverse plases as hit ys above rehersed, and of all manere sadill and brydell and alle othir harneis longyng unto the office of the saide Lord Beauchamp be you yoven and yn youre servise perused duryng the tyme above saide, and also for to allowe paper parchement and alle othir thynges longyng unto his accounte as ned ys, as hit hath be allowed unto othir divers personys maistres of the hors of youre ryght noble progenytours afor this tyme.

Lettre ent feust fte a Loundres le xvj. jour de Novembr̃ lan tc. xxviij.

(*In dorso.*) To the reverend fader in God oure right trusty and welbeloved the Bisshop of Chichestre keper of oure prive seel.

[*Ibid.* art. 36.

Proceeding of the Council, 28th November, 28 Hen.VI. 1449.]

HENRI &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains &c. greting. Sith it is so that the reverend fadre in God oure right trusty and welbeloved the Bisshop of Chichestre keper of oure prive sealle is in oure ambassiate w^t^ other at this time by us ordeigned to assemble with thambassatours of the Kinge of Scottes at Dureham for the good of pees with Goddes mercy to be had and concluded betwix this oure reaume and ye reaume of Scotlande, in whose absence we have assigned oure trusty and welbeloved chapelain the Dean of Poules to have the gouvernaunce of thoffice and keping of oure said prive seal, taking by the consent of the said reverent fadre during the said absence xx. s. by day for wages dayly longing to the said office. We wol and charge you that in partie of paiement of the charges costes and expenses that he hath borne during the said time, ye do paie of our tresour xxiiij. li. in redy paiement in hande. Yeven &c. within oure citee of London at the Blake Freres ye xxviij^ti^. day of Novembr the yere of our regne xxviij^ti^.

De mandato Regis per advisamentum Consilii.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 60. 4th December, 28 Hen.VI. 1449.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresourer and Chamblains of oure eschequier greting. For as moche as oure right trusty and right welbeloved cousin Richard duc of York is w^t^holde towardes us by endenture beringe date at Westm the xxx. day of Juill the yere of oure regne xxv. to have the gouvernement of oure lande of Irlande for

x. yere yanne next folowing, for the whiche he sholde take of us for the first yere iiij. m^l. marc̃, and for everiche of the remanant of ye saide x. yere ij. m^l. marc̃, to be paied in maner and fourme conteigned in the saide endentures. We wol and charge you yat in partie of paiement of suche sommes of money as ben due unto oure said cousin for ye saide cause, ye doo make unto him payement or sufficient assignement of m^l. cc. l̃i. Yeven &c. at the Frere Prechours ye iiij. day of Decembr̃ the yere &c. xxviiij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, p̃nt̃ d̃nis Car^l' Cancell̃ Suff' &c.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 62. 11th February, 28 Hen. VI. 1450.]

Henri &c. to ye Tresorer and Chamberlayns of oure eschequier gretyng, We wol and charge you that unto oure welbeloved Johan Abery ye which from oure right dere and welbeloved cousyns ye Duke of Somers̃ &c. and y'Erle of Shrovesbury hath broght us certayne tithyngs, ye delyvere of oure tresour v. marcs to be had and taken of oure yift by way of reward. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye xj. day of Feverer ye yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Domini Cancell̃ et ad relationem Domini Cust̃ Privati Sigilli &c.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 64. 17th February, and apparently in the 28th Hen. VI. 1450.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, For asmoch as it is openly and universelly known through oute this oure lande, and among other to you, as we conceive wel by certaine

letters that but late agoo were sent unto you, the which ye as oure trewe subgittz withoute delay sent unto us, wherof we can you right goode thanke, that greet labour and bisinesse is doon and in doing under untrewe fained and pretense colores of entending to the comune weel of this oure lande, where as God knoweth thentent of thoo that so labour is to the subversion therof, to make assembles and gadering of oure subgitz of this lande ayenst oure entent and ayenst oure lawe and proclamations late made according to oure saide lawes. We with the grace of our Lorde entending as it belongeth unto us to lette restraigne and rebuke the said unliefull unlaiefull and ungodly purpos, write unto you willing and also charging you y^t^ ye no faith nor credence yeving to writings letters or sending of any persone of what degree condition or astate that ever he be to thentent of any such gaderings not commanded by us under oure greet or privie seel or under oure signett or of such as be remembred and specified in oure said proclamations, suffre no gaderings or assembles to be made among you, nor receive into oure towne admitte or herborgh any routes or assembles of oure subgitts w^t^out oure commandement gadered or assembled, And faillith not herein as oure trust is on you and as ye woll shewe and prove you our faithfull and trewe subgitts. Yeven under oure prive seel at Westm̃ the xvij. day of Feverer.

To ye Mair and baillieffs of oure citee of Canterbury.

To y^e^ Portreve and inhabitaunce of oure towne of Maidestañ.

To ye Mair and aldermen of oure towne of Colchestre.

To the Mair and bailliffs of Sandewich.

To the Mair bailliffs and commyne of oure towne of Oxinford.

To y^e^ bailleffs burgeis and commons of Wynchelsey.

To the Maire bailleffs and commaltee and inhabitants of y^e^ toune of Sudbury.

[*Ibid.* art. 63. 9th May, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY by the grace of God King of England and of Fraunce and Lord of Irlande to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequyer greting. For asmoche as we sende at this tyme oure trusty and welbeloved Maister Thomas Kent doctor of both lawes and clerc of oure counsaill in oure ambassiate, as well to oure towne of Calais for to mete with th'ambassatours of the Duk of Borgoigne for reparation of attemptats, as unto tharchbisshop of Coloyne for suche matiers as we have charged him with in yat partie, We wol and charge you yat unto ye said Maister Thomas ye paye dayly wages of xx. s. for a quartre of yere, to have by way of reward for his costes and expenses in yat partie. Yeven &c. at Leycestre the ix. day of May the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii sui.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 61. 17th May, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, We late you wite that we have understande by sup^on^ of oure right trusty and entierly welbeloved cousin Richard duc of York how that he ye xxix. day of Septembre the xxvj. yere of oure regne by writing endented was reteigned in oure service to be oure lieutenant in oure land of Irland for

ye saufgard of ye same by ye space of x. yere yanne next folowing, taking therefore ye first yere of ye same x. yere iiij. m$^{l}$. marc̃ and every other yere thereafter m$^{l}$. m$^{l}$. li. by ye handes of ye Tresourier and Chambrelains of oure eschequier for ye tyme being, in certain fourme as in yendentures of ye said reteigner made more plainly it appereth, of which sōmes annuel there is due to oure said cousin iiij. m$^{l}$. DCC. marcs, And over thees there is due to oure said cousin the sōme of vj. m$^{l}$. li. and more of his certain annuites wherin he is enherit to be paide in oure portes of London and Hull and at the receipt of oure eschequier, to right greet hindering and grevous damage of ye same oure cousin, as he saith, by cause wherof and for ye non payment of ye said wages he hath right greetly empoverisshed himself by chevysance of good and otherwise as it is said, Wherefore we considering ye premisses, wol and charge you that under oure prive seel being in youre warde ye do make oure lres of warrant souffisant and in due fourme directed unto oure said Tresourier and Chambrelains of oure eschequier charging thayme to do paye unto oure said cousin in al goodly hast al ye said sōmes of money in fourme above said to him due, and to make him redy payment herafter of his wages, after ye fourme of ye said endentures during ye said tyme of his reteigner in oure service, and thees oure lres shal be youre warrant. Yeven under oure signet at oure castle of Leycestre the xvij. day of May the yere of oure regne xxviij.

Repynghale.

(*In dorso.*) To oure right trusty and welbeloved clerc Maister Andrew Holes keper of oure prive seel.

[*Ibid.* art. 96. 23rd June, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains &c. For as much as oure welbeloved squyer Thomas Vaghan maistr of our ordenaunce hath as he sayd purveid and ordained certain stuff of ordenaunce which the xx. day of Juyn was brought with us into the feelde, that is to say, furst ij. serpentynes and j. culverien with ix. chambres and cc. shott of stones and lede, the price cs.

Item v. grete rebawdkins redy for the seid feld with x. chambres, price the pece iiij. li.

Item iiij. greter rebawdkins wth iiij. chambres, price the pece cs.

Item ij. cartes for the said ordenance with xxx. persons of gonners carpenters smiths masons waiting upon the said ordenance by iij. days, wch draweth to the sōme of iiijli.

Item j. barel of culverin poudr weing xxx. li., price ye li. xx. d.

Item ij. barel of gonpoudr conteignyng ciij. li., price ye li. xij. d., which in al the hole amounte to the sōme of xlvj. li. xiijs.

We therefore wol and charge you that unto the said Thomas Vaghan ye make gode and redy payment or sufficient assignment of the said sōme of xlvj. li. xiij. s. to have it of us be way of a prest for the cause abovesaid.

Yeven &c. at Westm the xxiijrd. day of Juyn the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum concilii sui.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 42. 30th June, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRI &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure exchequier greting. For suche causes and considerations as moeve us we wol and charge you that of oure tresore ye employe for and aboute the vitailling of oure Towre of London and suche other stuffs as is necessarie for ye saufgard yerof the some of c. li. Yeven &c. at Westm the laste day of Juyn. the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 46. 1st July, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRICUS &c. dilectis et fidelibus suis Thomæ Stanley militi et Thomæ Haryngton militi salutem. Sciatis quod ob certas et arduas causas nos intime concernentes assignavimus vos conjunctim et divisim ad omnes et singulos ligeos nostros infra com Cestr et Lancastr cujuscumq; status gradus seu conditionis fuerint ad laborand potentes melioribus modis quibus poterunt arraiari armari et muniri et eos sic arraiatos armatos et munitos in arraiatione hujusmodi teneri faciend ita quod ipsi in melioribus apparatibus suis continue parati existant ad veniend nobis cum pro eis duxerimus mittend. et ideo vobis mandamus quod circa præmissa diligenter intendatis et ea faciatis et exequamini in forma prædict. Damus autem universis et singulis ligeis et subditis nostris com prædictorum tam infra libertates quam extra tenore præsentium firmiter in mandatis quod vobis et alteri vestrum in executione præmissorum intendentes sint consulentes auxiliantes et obedientes quociens et quando per vos seu alterum vestrum ex parte nostra fuerint requisiti. In cujus rei testimoni has litteras nostras fieri

fecimus patentes. Dat' &c. apud Westm̃ primo die Julii anno &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 47. 12th July, 28 Hen. VI. 1450.]

Henricus &c. Cancellario &c. salutem, Thesaurario suo Angliæ vel ejus deputat' ac dilecto et fideli suo Thomæ Tyrell militi necnon dilectis sibi Ricardo Waller armigeris et Camerariis Saccarii sui salutem. Sciatis quod nos de fidelitatibus et circumspectionibus vestris plenius confidentes assignavimus vos conjunctim et divisim ad omnia et singula bona catalla jocalia et pecuniarum summas quæ quidam se nominans Johannem Mortymer [1] per se et sibi adherentes in com̃ Kanc̃ secum detulit et apportavit in quorumcumq; manibus existant seu inveniri poterint tam infra libertates quam extra pro nobis et nomine nostro arestand̃ et capiend̃, et ea omnia et singula sub salva et secura custodia ad opus nostrum juxta sanas discretiones vestras ponend̃ et quo vobis melius videbitur ducend̃ et transferend̃, et tales et tantas summas inde talibus personis de quibus vobis visum fuerit ad utilitatem nostram et regni nostri præsertim circa captionem prædicti Johannis Mortymer et sibi adherentium exponend̃. Et ideo vobis et vestrum cuilibet mandamus quod circa præmissa diligenter intendatis et ea faciat' et exequamini in forma prædicta. Damus autem universis et singulis vicecomitibus majoribus ballivis constabulariis mynistris ac aliis fidelibus ligeis et subditis nostris tam infra libertates quam extra tenore præsentium firmiter in mandatis quod vobis et

[1] *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 275, and the next article.

cuilibet vestrum in executione præmissorum assistentes sint obedientes auxiliantes et confortantes in omnibu diligenter. In cujus &c. Dat &c. apud Westm̃ xii die Julii anno &c. xxviij°.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 47. 14th July, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequer greting. We wol and charge you that by all the weyes and meenes to you possible, ye putte you withoute delay or tarrying in youre devoir and diligence for to recovere take and receyve alle suche goodes as that fals traytour oon callyng him self John Mortymer late brought in to oure towne of Rochester or that in any wyse belonged unto him be it gold silver in coyne or plate clothes of gold arras or any other good what ever it be, the whiche so recovered hadde take and receyved by you we woll yat ye so reule and demene it as it may be to the moost profit and avayle of us and this oure lande, and faillith not herein in any wise as ye desire the good of us and of oure saide land. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xiiij. day of Juill, the yere &c. xxviij^ti^.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art 44. 17th July, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequer greting. We wol and charge you that unto oure ryght trusty and welbeloved clerc Maistre Andrewe Hooles keper of oure privie seal whom late agoo we by thadvis of oure counsail for certaine causes sent to speke

with him yat called him capitaigne of Kent whom er he couth finde he sought as well in Sussex as in Kent, ye doo paye x. li. to have of oure yefte by way of reward for his costes and expenses in yat behalf, also we wol and charge you that unto the same Maistre Andrew nowe commyng towards us with certaine letters of credence from oure counsaill ye doo paye of oure tresore x. li. to have of oure yefte for the costes and expenses that he shall bere and susteigne in that partie. Yeven &c. at Westm the xvij. day of Juyll, the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 50. 18th July, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure exchequier, We wol and charge you that unto all yoo persones and everiche of hem that late by force of oure letters of commission yede unto Rochestre in Kent for to arreste certain goodes yat were late in ye governaunce of oon John Mortimer traitoure callyng himself capitaigne of Kent and to other persones that did service to ye same end and entent ye paie for the costes and expenses yat yai have borne and susteigned in yis behalf. Yeven &c. at Westm ye xviij. day of Juill, the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, præsentibus Dominis Cancell Cant Wintoñ Custod privati sigilli Scales Fastalf &c.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 45. 18th July, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequier gretyng. For asmoch as oure right trusty and welbeloved clerc Maistre Andrewe Holes keper of oure privie seal hath to make a certaine journey in oure service and is distitut of hors, we woll and charge you that unto him ye delivere by waye of lone for the said journey vj. hors yat late that traitour calling him capitaigne of Kent hadde and nowe been in youre warde. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye xviij. day of Juill, the yere &c. xxviij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 65. 24th August, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY by the grace of God King of Englande and of Fraunce and Lord of Irlande, to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure excheqyer greting. For asmoch as in tyme passed for such necessitees as we then had certayne oure jeulx were leyde in gage for a certain somme of money unto the moost reverent fadre in God John archebisshop of Canterbury and other of thexecutours of the Lord Fanhop passed to God, among which jeuelx oon was a coler called Ikylford coler which lay for v$^{c}$. marc, the which coler at oure desire was without any payement or assignement of the said v$^{c}$. marc delivered ayen unto us ayenst the coronation of oure moost entierly welbeloved wyf the Queene, we wol and charge you that unto the said moost reverent fader in God and to his coexecutores ye doo make payement or sufficient assignement of y$^{e}$ v$^{c}$. marc̃ abovesaid

as reason is. Yeven undre oure prive seal at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of August, the yere of oure regne xxviij.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 66. 25th August, 28 Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequier greting, We wol and charge you that unto Artoys king of armes of oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin the Duchess of Burgoigne late commyng towards us from hir with certaine letters and message ye doo paye c. s̃. to have of oure yefte by waye of reward for ye cause abovesaide. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye xxv. day of Aust, the yere &c. xxviij.

[*Ibid.* art. 67. apparently 25th August, and apparently in the 28th Hen.VI. 1450.]

HENRY &c. to oure trusty and welbeloved Thomas Tudeham knight keper of oure greet warderobe greting, We wol and charge you that unto oon Gerard Boot monke of Chartrehouse confessour unto the Quene of Scotts nowe being in oure citee of London, the whiche late was spoyled upon the see by oure subgitts as he sayth in retournyng from Scoteland into Flandres, ye deliver xx$^{ti}$. yerds of fyne blakke clothe to have of oure yifte by waye of rewarde, and we wol that thees letters be unto you hereinne sufficient warrant and yat by the same ye have therof due allouaunce in youre accounte. Yeven &c. ut supra.

[*Ibid.* art. 68. apparently 25th August, 28 Hen. VI. 1450.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresourer and Chamberlains of oure eschequier greting. For asmoche as we have graunted unto the bailliefs and citezeins of oure citee of Rochestr xl. li. of ye goodes that that fals traitour John Cade calling him Mortymer late broughte to oure saide citee now belonging unto us by way of forfaiture for to make therwith the estgate of ye same citee next towards Caunterbury, we wol and charge that unto William Appuldurfeld for and in the name of ye said baillifs and citezeins and to ye use abovesaide ye delivre the said xl. li. to have of oure yefte by way of rewarde for ye said cause. Yeven &c. ut supra.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, præsentibus Dominis Carl Cancell Cantuarien London Hereford Duce Buck Thes Rivers &c.

Langport.

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## ACTA DE ANNO VICESIMO NONO.

[Additional MS. 4610. art. 43. a modern *Transcript*.

Writ to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, dated 3rd October, 29 Hen. VI. 1450.]

HENRI by ye grace of God King of Englande and of Fraunce and lord of Irlande, to the Tresorere and Chamberlains of oure eschequier greeting. We wol and charge you that unto oure right trusty and right welbeloved cousin Edmond duke of Somers the which now late toke in Kent a risare ayenst oure pees, oon John Smyth that called himself capitaigne of Kent, the which made yere a grete gadering of people ayenst oure pees

and contrarie to oure lawes, ye paie and delivere for that cause of oure reward xl. li., and also for asmoche as we sende at yis tyme ayene unto Kent oure said cousin for to see and ordeigne that good rest and pees be among oure people yere and to chastise ther ye contrarie labourers yerof, we wol and charge you that for every day that he shal so be in oure said service from the day of his departing for this cause from London unto the day of his retourne ayen to London eyther day accounted, ye paye and delivere to him of oure tresore xx. marc̃ of oure reward w'oute any other accounte yelding therfore, savyng only of a certificat undre his seal to you to be directed, doyng you to wite therby how many dayes that for the cause abovesaid he was in Kent. Yeven undre our privie seal at oure paloys of Westm̃ the iij. day of Octobr̃, the yere of oure reigne xxix.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 97. *Original*

*Ibid.* 12th October, 29 Hen. VI. 1450.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Barons of oure eschequier greting. We have understande that howe be it that oure welbeloved Will̃ de la Barre chappellayn administratour̃ of the good̃ and catalles of Lowys late administratour̃ of the bysshoprich̃ of Ely, hath̃ payed̃ and contented̃ us long tyme passed̃ for an hors with̃ a sadell̃ and a brydell̃, an hat, a cloke, a ryng, a cuppe, a lavour̃, and also for a mute of houndes, the which̃ were the said̃ late ministratour̃ of the church̃ of Ely to us by rygh̃t and custume of olde tyme hadde and used̃, perteignyng, as in our̃ lres undre our̃ signet writen in our̃

castell of Wyndesore the xxvj. day of Septembre the yere of ouꝛ regne xxv. remaignyng in ouꝛ said eschequyer of recorde it is conteigned all at large, yet nevertheless ye as it is said forbere not to make out processe alway ayenst the said Will for the same duete which is payed as is abovesaid, unto his greet hurt and prejudice and ayenst reason and conscience. Wherfore we wol and charge you and everich of you that ye surseese utterly from hens forth of such processe makyng ayenst the said Will and him to acquite and discharge utterly ayenst us and ouꝛ heires in ouꝛ said eschequier for the said cause for ever more. Wylling furthermore and decreing by thees ouꝛ lres that all such processe with the dependences as hath be made ayenst the said Will sith the date of ouꝛ said lres of sygnet for the said cause be voyde and of non effecte. Yeven &c. at Westm the xij. day of Octobre, the yere &c. xxix.

De man^to Regis
p avisa^tu' sui Consilii. } LANGPORT.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 231 b. *O*.

Writ to the Keeper of the privy seal, 23rd December, 29 Hen. VI. 1450.]

RIGHT' trusty and welbeloved, Forasmuche as we be acertained that a servaunt longing to oure right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Scales [called Hugh of Forde] during the tyme of this oure parlement was comitted to the warde of oure Conestable and Mareschal of Englande, We therfore wolling the priveleges of oure parlementez to be observed and kepte, wol and charge you that under our prive seel being in yo^r warde ye do make oure lres directed to oure Conestable and

Marschal abovesaide charging and cõmaunding theym to late the servaunt abovesaide to go at large for the tyme that oure parlement shal endure, and thees oure lres shal be yor warraunt. Yeven under oure signet at oure palois of Westmynstr the xxiij. day of Decembr, the yere of oure reigne xxixv

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 150. *Original.*

Writ to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, 25th January, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Barons of our eschequyer greting. For certaine causes and consideracons such as moeve us, we wol and charge you þat notwtstanding any lres or warant directed unto you from us afore this tyme or here after to be directed for surseessing of any processe making or proceding to jugement sauf oonly such as passeth by þavis of oure counsaill, ye not forbere, but procede effectuelly in all matiers touching us after the cours of oure lawe and þe said eschequyer, and failleth not herin in any wyse. Yeven &c. at Westm the xxv. day of January the yere &c. xxixti.

Langport.

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[Additional MS. 4610. art. 177. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 6th May, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

Henry &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure exchequyer greting. For as moch as we send at yis tyme oure welbeloved Clarenceux heraulde of arme wt certaine letters of sauf conduyte into Scotlande for such ambas-

satours of ye King of Scotts as shall meete w^t oure commissioners at Newcastell for reparation of attemptats and oyer matiers such as we have committed unto yaim, we wol and charge you yat unto ye said Clarenceux ye doo paye c. s. to have of oure yeft by way of reward for his costs and expenses yat he shall have for ye cause abovesaid. Yeven &c. at West the vj. day of May, the yere &c. xxix.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. VI. f. 423. *contemporary* M.S.

Indenture, containing a list of jewels which were delivered to John Wynn, citizen and jeweller, of London, by command of the Lords of the Council, to which the date of the 20th May, 29 Hen.VI. 1451, is assigned in a modern hand, but it does not appear upon what authority.]

This indenture made betwix John Powtrell on that oon ptie and John Wynne citizein and jueller of London on that othr ptie, witnesseth that wher the King oure souvain lord by his lres patentes of cōmissiōn under his greet seel hath yeve to the said John Wynne amonges othr things in the same conteigned, powair to receive of the Tresorer of Englande and of al othr alle man of juelx that the said Tresorer or any othr on the Kings parte and to his use and necessitee wol take to the same John Wynne any juelx as in the saide lres it is conteigned more at large, It is so that the said John Poutrell seing the said cōmissiōn and knoweing that theffecte therof was oonly for pe setting over in the Kings fvice into Guyenne for pe defence & savacon of it of the Lord Rivers & of his retenue, and willing pe

said̄ setting ov̄ sp̄ially to be doon̄ ⸗ therfore at þesp̄ial desire of þe Lordꝭ of þe Kingꝭ counseil þe said̄ Joħn Poutrell̄ hatħ deliv̄ed̄ to the same Joħn Wynne sucħ juelx as menc̄on is made of her̄after ⸗ the whicħ jeulx were deliv̄ed̄ by the Lord̄ Say late Tresorer of Englande to the said̄ Joħn Poutrell̄ for his suertee of paiemēt of vj$^{c}$. l̄i. þat he late lened̄ unto þe King ⸗ þat is to say ⸗ a tabulet of gold̄ w$^{t}$ an ymage of Saint George garnisshed̄ witħ a ruby ꝯt viij. diamoundes and on the oon ꝑte of the ymage is an angel holding an helme garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ a ruby and litil ꝑles ⸗ and on the otħr ꝑte a maide kneling w$^{t}$ a lambe garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ a ruby ⸗ and above the said̄ tabulet is an ymage garnisshid̄ w$^{t}$ xxij. balais xxv. saphires iij. emeraudꝭ lv. greet perles and iiij$^{xx}$. ix. ꝑles of lesse sorte and witħ many otħr smale ꝑles weiyng iij$^{xx}$. xix. unc̄ q$^{a}$rt̄. Also a saler of gold̄ couv̄ed̄ and wrogħt w$^{t}$ flowres de lyse garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ xiiij. bales xv. saphires xxiiij. troches ⸗ ev̄y troche iij. perles ⸗ and w$^{t}$ many otħr smal ꝑles ⸗ and in þe mydel and w$^{t}$in the said̄ salere is a serpentz tong and oon̄ pece of an unicorne horne weying iiij. l̄b. vij. unc̄ iij. q$^{a}$rt̄s. Also a greet cupe of golde cov̄ed̄ and chased̄ garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ ix. saphafires ix. peticotꝭ xviij. troches ⸗ ev̄y trocħ of iiij. perles ⸗ and upon̄ the top̄ a gentilwoman̄ kneling ⸗ and in the middis and in the said̄ cuppe is a serpentz tong and a pece of an unicornes horne weying iiij$^{xx}$. xiij. unc̄. Also an otħr cuppe of golde couv̄ed̄ and garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ l. rubies ꝯt xliiij. ꝑles and the topet garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ ij. saphires ꝯt viij. ꝑles veiing xlix. unc̄ ꝯt a q$^{a}$rt̄. Also a notħr cuppe of golde couv̄ed̄ ꝯt enameled̄ w$^{t}$ div̄s ymages and garnisshed̄ w$^{t}$ ij. baleys iiij. saphires ꝯt lxxvi. ꝑles weying lxxiij. unc̄ and iij. q$^{a}$rt̄s. Also a standing potte couv̄ed̄ of silv̄ gilt w$^{t}$ an handel made in maner of wretħes weying xij. l̄b. viij. unc̄ iij. q$^{a}$rt̄ ꝯt dī. Also a potte of the same sorte weying xiij. l̄b. ix. unc̄ ꝯt dī and dī

q^a^rt̃. Also a pot of þe same sorte weying xiij. ℔. iij. unc̃ dĩ ꝛ dĩ a quart̃ ⸗ alle the which juellx I the said Joħn Wynne confesse by thees that for þe said cause I have received theim of the said Powtrell. In wittnesse wherof ꝛc̃^a^.

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[Additional MS. 4610. art. 176. a modern *Transcript*.

Petition to the King, 28th June, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

To the Kyng oure souveraygn lord.

Besechen mekely youre pouer lieges Thomas Canynges and William Hulyn late shireffes of youre citee of London to concidre that wher as by your commandement diverse and severell writtes have be directed unto them undre youre grete seall commandyng hem such tyme as they occupied the seyd office ⸗ by oon of your seyd writtes to send and delyver a quarter of oon Niclas Jakes atteynt of high treson ⸗ to the Maire and bailliefs of youre citee of Chichestre in the countee of Sussex ⸗ and by another of the said writtes to send and deliver another quarter of the seyd Niclas Jakes to the bailliefs of Rochestre in the shire of Kent ⸗ and another to Portesmouth ⸗ and another quarter to Colchestre ⸗ and by another of youre said writtes to send and delyver the heed of oon Thomas Cheyny feyning him silf an heremite cleped Blewberd atteynt of high treson ⸗ to the Maire and bailliefes of youre citee of Canterbury ⸗ and by another of your sayd writtes to sett up a quarter of the sayd traytour cleped Blewberd upon a yate of London ⸗ and to send and delyver another quarter of the same traytour to the sheriefes of youre citee of Norwich ⸗

and to send and delyver two other quarters of the same traitour to the wardens of youre v. portes or to their lefftenauntes, and by another of your said writtes to drawe the body of another traytour callyng him silf John Rammesey wyne drawer, and to send and delyver a quarter of hym to Stamford and another quarter of him to Covyntre, and another quarter of hym to Newbury, and another quarter of hym to Wynchestre, and also by other severell youre writtes commandyng them to sett up iij. severell heedes of the persones abovesayd upon London Brugge, and by another of youre seyd writtes to do drawe the body of a grete traytour namyng him silf Mortymer upon an hurdull by the stretes of your citee of London and his *head* to set on London Brugge, and by another of your seyd writtes to send and delyver a quarter of the seyd traytour called Mortymer to the constables of the hundred of Blakheth, and by another of youre seyd writtes to send and delyver another quarter of the seyd traytour called Mortymer to the Maire and shireffes of the citee of Norwich, and by another to send and delyver another quarter of the same traytour to the Maire of the citee of Salesbury, and another quarter of the same traytour to the bailiefs of the towne of Gloucestre, the which youre high commandements by youre sayd late shireffs were duly execute to there grete charges and costes and especially for there cariages of the quarters aforsayd and the hed of the same Thomas Cheyny, for and by cause that unneth any persones durste nor wolde take upon ham the caridge of the seyd hed and quarters for doute of her lyves, Plese hit therfore un to youre highnesse to command your gracious letters of pryvy seall to be directed to the Tresorer and Barons of your eschekker commandyng them that in thaccountes that the seid Thomas and William ben to yeld unto you

by cause of ther office they allowe unto them of the feerme of the same youre citee and of the counte of Middlesex and of the issues profitts and comodities comyng and growyng of the seyd youre citee of London and of the countee of Mydd̃ all such sommes of monay as that they and eyther of them or any for them or in ther name accountyng for them wol make feith that hath be by them and eyther of them spend and paid for and aboute the execution of your commandements above seyd and of everich of them, and your seyd besechers shall pray to God for you.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii apud Westm̃ xxviij. Junii anno xxix.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 178.

Proceeding of the Council, 5th July, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

Henry &c. to the Tresourer and Chamberlains of oure eschequier greting. We wol and charge you yat unto Snadon heraulde late cōmyng from oure cousin the Kyng of Scotts towards us with certain letters, ye do paie c. s̃. to have of oure yefte by waye of reward for his costes and expenses had and suffred by him in yat partie. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye v. day of Juyl, the yere &c. xxix.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 171. 24th July, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

Henry &c. to the Tresourer and Chamberlains of oure eschequier greting. We late you wite that where as our trusty and welbeloved knight S^r^ Henry Redford prisoner

unto oure ennemyes, havyng noo goods wherwith to contente his finaunce, whiche of long time hath contynued and doon to us trewe and diligent service in oure reaume of Fraunce and duchie of Normandie and other tymes afore this there hath be prisoner and payed greet finaunce and had greet and importable losse of his goods in other wises, we of oure benigne and ample grace by thavis of oure counsaille in consideration of the premisses have graunted unto him vj$^{ml}$. saluz to be rebated upon thobligations of the Duc of Orleaunce and suche as ben bounde for him for his finaunce whanne he was prisoner here, the which obligations remaigne in your warde in oure tresorie. We wol therfore by thavis of oure said counsaille and charge you that to the said S$^{r}$ Henry ye delivere an obligation of William de Harecourt erle of Tankerville of vj$^{ml}$. saluz being in youre saide warde amonge other obligations for the finance of the said Duc of Orleaunce as is abovesaid, to have of oure yifte for the causes above reherced, and yees oure letters shall be unto you sufficient warrant and discharge. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of Juyl, the yere &c. xxix.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 174. 2nd August, 29 Hen.VI. 1451.]

Henricus &c. Thesaurario et Camerariis de scaccario nostro salutem, Ob certas causas et considerationes nos et consilium nostrum moventes volumus et vobis mandamus quod certas evidenc̃ et munimenta in custodia vestra infra thesaurariam nostram existeñ de quibus in articulis quos vobis mittimus præsentibus interclusos fit mentio ad nos et dictum consilium nostrum in civitatem nostram

Cantuarieñ adducatis adducive faciatis omni acceleratione accommoda. Dat. &c. apud civitatem nostram Cantuarieñ secundo die Augusti anno &c. xxix°.

M^d. quod Willmus Kynwolmerssh clericus liberavit in recept scaccarii xij°. die Octobr 'anno vij°. Regis H. v. unam indenturam factam Caleš xiij°. die Julii anno Domini millimo ccccxix°. per Willmum Bardolf militem et alios ambassiatores Regis de tractatu pacis inter regnum Angliæ et partes Flandriæ.

M^d. quod ix°. die Octobr anno xiiij°. Regis H. vi^ti. Raðus dominus Cromwell Thes Angliæ et Camerar de scaccario receperunt de David Breknoke per indenturam unam cistam in qua sunt diversi libri facient mentionem de divers appunct fact inter Reges Angliæ et Franciæ et eciam sacrm et juramentum factum per Ducem Burgundiæ ad perimplend et observand concord factam inter Karolum Regem Franc et Henricum Quintum nuper Regem Angliæ.

M^d. quod viij°. die Julii anno regni Regis Henrici vj^ti. xxvj^to. Magister Thomas Kent clericus consilii dicti Domini Regis liberavit in thesaurar Regis ix. scripta de treugis ac de prorogat treug capt inter dictum Dominum Regem et Phm Ducem Burgund et at.

M^d. quod x°. die Octobr anno regni Regis Henric v^ti. tercio recept fuerunt in recept scaccarii iiij^or. litteræ, una littera pacis Ducis Burgundiæ sigillat sigillo suo, et alia littera Karoli Regis Franciæ sigillo suo sigillat, et unus tractat inter Regem Angl et quatuor membra Flandr, et una littera Regis Angliæ.

De mandato Regis per avisamentū sui Consilii, præsent Dominis Car^l' Custode privati sigilli.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 102. 16th August, 29 Hen. VI. 1451.]

HENRY &c. to the Tresorer and Chamberlains of oure eschequyer greting. Forasmoche as oure trusty and welbeloved John Lord Beauchamp hath now late by oure commaundement for shippyng and setting over to oure towne of Calays of certaine men of armes and archers by wey of a trewe for the seurtie and savegard of our said towne the sõme of xxxix$^{l}$. as by parcelles thereof the which we sende you closed here within as may appere all at large, we wol and charge you that unto the said Lord ye make repayement of the said xxxix$^{l}$. soo by him on our behalfe payed as is above rehersed. Yeven &c. at Cant the xvj. day of August, the yere &c. xxix.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Concilii.

Langport.

My Lord Seudeley.

In the Cateryn of Calice
vj$^{xx}$. men xxiv. shipmen & y$^{e}$ mast$^{r}$.
Sm$^{a}$ xxiv. li. vj. s. viij. d.

Belknape.

In the Mary of Sandwiche
viij$^{xx}$. men xxiv. shipm. & a grome - Sm$^{a}$ iv. li. v. s.

Seint Barbarbe.
Husy.

In the Gooste of Sandwich
ix$^{xx}$. men xxij. shipm. & y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ Sm$^{a}$ iv. li.

S$^{r}$ Will Crafford.[1]
Horewode.

In the balynger of Rye
xl. men xvj. shipmen w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - Sum lvj. s. viij. d.

In the Passynger of Calice
c. men xiv. shipm. w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - - - Sum l. s.

[1] *Sic*; but *query*, Trafford.

Witney
Salford

In the Lord Skales balyng$^{r}$
c. men xviij. shipm. w$^{th}$ the m$^{r}$ - Sum̃ lxiii. s̃. iiii. d̃.

Sire Tho. Fvndarne.

In the James of Calice
cc. men xxiv. shipm. t̃ a grome - Sum̃ iiij. l̃. v. s̃.

In the Isabel of Clyfton
xl. men xvj. shipm. w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - Sum̃ lvj. s̃. viij. d̃.

In Selby ys balyng$^{r}$
xl. men xiiij. shipm. w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - Sum̃ l. s̃.

In Alfrey ys balyng$^{r}$
xl. men xij. shipm. w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - Sum̃ xliij. s̃. iiij. d̃.

In Petyt Crayer
xxx. men w$^{th}$ hors vij. shipm. w$^{th}$ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$
Sum̃ xxvj. s̃. viij. d̃.

Item in y$^{e}$ Mary of Sandwich
c. men xx. shipm. t̃ y$^{e}$ m$^{r}$ - Sum̃ iiij. l̃.

Item for the costs and expenses of Thomas Burnell being at Sandwich for iij. days to contente and pay the said shipmen } Sum̃ xvj. s̃. viij. d̃.

Summa xxxix. l̃.

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 423. *Original.*

Warrant to the Keeper of the privy seal, dated 15th February, 30 Hen. VI. 1452.]

Righ't trusty and welbeloved ⸝ We wol and charge you that under oure prive seel beyng in youre warde ye doo make our̃ l̃res in fourme folowing ⸝ Henry ꝛc. to the Tresourier and Chamberlayns of oure eschequier gretyng ⸝ We considering that where by vertue of oure l̃res of prive seel directed to the Tresourier and Chamb̃layns of oure eschequier̃ theer̃ were deliv̊ed oute of oure tresory the xix. day of Janyuer in the xxviij. yeer̃ of oure regne by them unto thandes of James Fenes knigh̃t lorde Say than oure Tresourier of England ⸝ nowe ded ⸝ certain oure juelx ⸝ as in thendentures therof made betwix oure said Chamberlayns and hym ⸝ wherof þat oon̄ partie was by hym seeled remayning in youre kepyng it apperet̃h more at large ⸝ And we considering þat where the iij^de^. day of Fevrier the xxviij. yeer̃ of oure reigne theer̃ was lent unto us by oure welbeloved ſvant Joh̃n Poutrell̃ [þe] sōme of vj^c^. l̃i. for whoos surete of repaiement therof theer̃ were delyv̊ed unto hym by the Tresourier and Chamberlayns of oure eschequier certain tailles rered at þe receipte of oure eschequier þe x. day of þe said moneth̃ of Fevrer ⸝ and also by the said Lord Saye than oure Tresourier certain juelx ⸝ as in thappele of the receipte of oure eschequier it apperet̃h ⸝ the which̃ juelx we knowe for certain were parte of oure said juelx that were deliv̊ed by vertue of þe said oure l̃res of prive seel unto þe said Lord Say ⸝ And we considre also that where by oure l̃res patentꝰ of cōmission under oure greet seel made the xv. day of May the xxix. yeer̃ of oure reigne ⸝ trustyng on þe feith̃ and circumspecc̃on of oure welbeloved Joh̃n Wynne citezen and jueller of London [1]

[1] *Vide* pp. 105-107, *antea.*

have assigned hym and cõmitted to hym power to receyve of oure Tresourier of Englande and of alle othr personnes, such and as many juelx as the same Tresourier or any othr on oure partie for us and to our use wold delyv̄e him, as by the copie of the same cõmission the which is herto annexed more playnly it may appere. And furthermore we considre þat now late to oure relief and ease and for partie of paiement of þe wages of þe Lord Rivers and his souldeours late reteyned with us for to goo into oure duchie of Guyenne, at the desire of us and of the lordz of oure counseil the said John Poutrell deliv̄ed to the said John Wynne after the date and sight of oure said cõmission for oure use and necessite, thabovesaid juelx to him delyv̄ed by thabovesaid oure Tresourier, the which we knowe for certain bethe suche as mencion is maad of in an denture maade of the receite and deliv̄aunce of hem betwix þe said John Wynne and þe said John Poutrell, of þe which endenture the copie is herto annexed, and þe which juelx we knowe for certain beth al and the same juelx þat were deliv̄ed by the said Lord Say to the said John Poutrell as above. And we wolling therfore the said John Poutrell discharge and acquite ayeinst us oure heires & executours for ever of þe same juelx and of every parcel of hem, wol for so moche and charge you þat ye do cancell adnul and with drawe in the said appele of oure receipte al þat that by any moien is entred or writen therin that might cause the said John Poutrell to be answerable or chargeable to us or to oure heires or executours of þe said juelx or any pcel of them. Yeven &c. And thees oure lres shal be yor warrant. Yeven under oure signet at oure palois of Westm̄ the xv. day of Fevrier the yeer̄ of oure reigne xxx^ti.[1]

BOWDON.

[1] The indorsement, being pasted down, is illegible.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 6. a modern *Transcript.*
Letter from the King to Lord Cobham, dated 17th February, 30 Hen.VI. 1452.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, Howe be it that we trowed that ye according to youre dewte hadd be and wolde have be awayting upon us as other lordes that but late agoo was called to come to oure counsaille doo and entended upon us and to oure service, as oure trewe liegeman oweth to doo, namely considering the grete untrouthe and disobeissaunce that is ment and purposed ayenst us and ayenst oure astate and ayenst oure universell pollice and welfare of this oure lande, the whiche with the grace of oure Lord shall not take suche effect as the auctours and labourers therof purpoos and entende, but shalbe so rebuked and chastised as it shall be to the plesir of God and to the worship of us and to the wele of this oure reaume. Neverthelesse ye willfully absent you from us and withdrawe you otherwyse thanne ye owed in anywise to doo. We therfore write unto you charging you straitely upon the feith and ligeaunce that ye owe unto us, that incontinent seen thees oure letters ye w$^{t}$oute delay or tarrying come to oure presence there to awaite upon us and do service suche as it fitteth oure trewe ligeman, and namely of youre astate and degree for to doo, and failleth not so to doo as ye woll eschewe oure indignation and the perill that may ensewe therof. Yeven &c. at Westm the xvij. day of Feverer the yere &c. xxx.

To oure right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Cobham.

T. Kent.

De mandato Regis
per avisamentum sui Consilii.

[Bibl. Harl. 1878. f. 2. *Original.*

Warrant to the Keeper of the privy seal, 8th March, 30 Hen. VI. 1452.]

By the Kyng.

RIGH'T trusty and welbeloved, We late you wite þat we have wele understande by a supp^on p̃nted unto us on the behalve of þe Maiř and burgeises merchauntȩ of oure towne of Newecastel upon Tyne, that whereas the wolles hides and wollefelles growing in oure countees of Northumbreland Westmerland and Cumbreł and in þe bisshopryke of Duresme were no staple ware ne might bere þe charges and costȩ of ouř staple of Caleis, and þat we heretofore by ouř ľres patentez have lycenced the saide Maiř and burgeises that they and thair predecessours shulde bye and selle þe saide wolles hides and wollefelles and thayme to shippe w^tinne ouř port of ouř saide towne and from theins thayme to cary and lede unto Brugges in Flaundres and unto the towne of Midelburgh̃ in Zelande, payeng therfore þe custumes subsidies and devoirs due and accoustumed, as in oure saide ľres patentȩ it may appiere more at large. It is so þat oure saide ľres patentȩ so made unto thayme by force of an acte made in ouř parlement holden at Westm̃ the xij. day of Fevrier þe xxvij. yeeř of ouř regne were revoked and adnulled unto þe ppetuel hurt of þe saide Maiř and burgeisis merchauntȩ and of alle oth̃r oure liege peuple of þe saide countees and bisshopryke þat were accoustumed for to bye and selle þe saide wolles hides and wollefelles and to have thair sustentac̃on by þe same, Wherfore we considering as wele the premisses as þe grete and manyfolde charges þat þe forsaide Maiř and burgeises susteigne and bere dailly and yeerly in thair ferme payeng unto us and for þe defence of ouř saide towne ayeinst the Scottes and divers oth̃r grete costȩ and

charges empoverisshing hem ful grevously as we be enfourmed, so þat wtoute som relief be shewed unto thayme in þis behalve many of thayme shal be compelled of verray necessite to voied oute of ouꝛ saide towne and like to be wtinne shorte tyme final destruccon and desolacon of þe same oure towne, whiche God defende, have of ouꝛ gace espal graunted unto þe forsaide Maiꝛ and burgeises merchantꝭ of ouꝛ saide towne of Newcastel, licence that they and thair successours during the terme of iij. yeeres nowe next cōmyng shal mowe freely and unpunisshed in þe porte of ouꝛ saide towne by thaime and by thair ſvantꝭ, bye [and shippe] shorling lambeskynnes and calves skynnes growing of þe saide countees and bisshopryke, and thayme so boughꝫt and shipped, to do carye and lede unto þe saide townes of Brugges and Middelburgh and to eithꝛ of thayme at thair eleccioñ wtoute eny empechement impediment pturbacon contradiccon hurte or grief of us or heires or successours custumers contrerolleurs sercheours or eny oþ̄ ouꝛ officiers or ministers what som ev̄ they be, payeng unto us in or saide porte for þe saide shorling lambeskyns and calveskyns þe subsidie called pondage, þat is to wite, xij. d. of þe li. for almaner oþ̄ subsidies custumes and devoirs unto us in þat behalf belonging. So we wol and charge you þat under ouꝛ prive seel being in youꝛ warde ye do make or ꝛes directed unto or Chauncellꝛ of Englande charging him þat under or grete seel being in his warde he do make herupoñ ouꝛ ꝛes patentꝭ in due forme, eny statute ordonnance or act before this tyme made ordeigned or provided into þe contrary notwtstanding, and thees ouꝛ ꝛes shal be youꝛ warrant. Yeven under or signet at or palaice of Westm̄ the viij^e. day of Marche the yeeꝛ of ouꝛ regne xxx^e.

WDON.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 7. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Lord Clifford, dated 14th March, 30 Hen. VI. 1452.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, We thanke you as hertely as we canne of the right trewe and notable service that ye have at alle tymes be redie to doo unto us and have doo as ofte as ye have be certiffied and lerned of oure desire and entente in that behalf, and in especiall of the service that ye have doo to us but late agoo, the whiche we shall not forgete but have in remembraunce as reason wol. For asmoche as we be from tyme to tyme as wel by letters to suche as we owe of reason to yeve faith and credence as by laborious and diligent enquerre and especielle lerned that oure adversarie of France and thoo that holde his partie be disposed with alle the spede and haast that thay canne to come into oure marches of Calais w^t^ as greet puissaunce as any was assembled in Fraunce many yeres and with as greet ordinaunce and devyses of werre as any man hath seen, to th'entente to subdue unto yaim oure towne of Calais by the mene of siege and othre oure places in the saide marches, thay trowyng sone and w^t^oute grete difficultee so to mowe doo, and after that to come into this oure reaume to ye entente to distroye and dispoile it and the dwellers of the same, to the withstanding and lettyng of the whiche thaire malicious purpoos we w^t^ the grace of oure Lord with the helpe of you and of oure true subjettes shall doo oure parte in suche wyse as it shalbe to the pleasir of God to the worsship and wele of us and this oure reaume and to the rebuke and shame of oure saide adversaries and evill willers purpoos, one the greet meane shall mowe be that we be greetly and notabley purveyed and ordained of men and of myght upon the see by meane of the whiche we shall

not only with out delaie or tarrying as the caas shall require mowe goo over in oure owne persone and also lette the leying of any siege by water to oure saide towne of Calais and the bringing thidre of the saide ordinaunce, but also ordaine men for to lande whenne and where it shalbe thought available to us and ours and moost harmefull to oure said adversaries. For execution of the whiche meane we have ordained oure cousin th'Erle of Shrouesbury to have the leding reule and governaunce of oure saide puissance upon the see, wherto he is welle agrede and hath taken it upon him, and have nowe wtholde and ordeigned certayne other capitaignes and carraks to do service in fulfilling of oure said purpoos, to furthering of the which we have nowe ordeigned the Grace Dieu and other shippes of oure lande in notable nombre that be nowe in Tems Sandwich Wynchelse and in other ports here nygh to be redy therto withoute delay or tarying, to ye which oure purpoos and entente we have welle understande yat among alle oyer persones in yis oure lande of what degree condition or estate yat yai be ye be aswell disposed as we canne desire you for to be, wherfore we hertely thanke you, holding for certaine yt ye wol so continue. For somoche we write unto you exhortyng and hertely praying you yat ye as oure trust is on you doo alle ye labour and diligence possible unto you to enduce as many owners of shippes knyghtes squyers and oyer personnes in ye contree yat ye enhabet and dwell inne to ye same so as we may have cause to kune thaime thanke and to understande yerby the desire and love yat you have and bere to the seure and saufgard of oure saide towne of Calais and ye marche yerof and also to th'eschewing of ye hurts and harmes yat sholde mowe faille to yis oure lande. And to ye entente to yeve thoo that ye shall speke unto to have ye more courage to

the fullfylling of oure desire, we exhorte require and hertely pray yat ye wol take upon you the leding and the bringing of the saide shippes and ye men yat yai shalbe enforced with to the Downes of Sandewyche or to the Cambre with all diligence and spede possible, and to enduce such as ye shall come and mowe of the notablest knyghtes and persones of y$^{t}$ contree such as tho that shall come with ye saide shipes wolde be reuled by to do yaire parte w$^{t}$ you in ye ledyng of ye saide shippes to oon of ye places above saide, yevyng us knowlach of yaire names to ye entente yat we may sende unto you and yaim oure letters of commission suche as ye caas shall require. And to ye ende yat yai shall ye more effectuelly entende unto your exortation and sturyng on yis behalve we sende oure letters under oure privee seel to suche as ye woll make yaim to be subscribed unto of credence committed unto you to be sayde to yaim such as shalbe thought unto you expedient and behovefull. And for as moche as yis matier suffreth noo delay nor tarying we wol and charge you yat of ye disposicion towardnesse and good wille yat ye finde in oure subjetts such as ye shall have communication with on oure behalf, the which yaire disposition and towardnesse as we trust and trewe verraily shalbe right good, ye certiffie us in alle haaste possible after ye receyvyng of yees oure letters, of ye which we trust to God shall growe as greet worship and wele to us and yis oure lande and as greet a rejoising to you and oyer y$^{t}$ shalbe executours of this oure desire as at any tyme hath growe to any subjetts or dwellers of yis oure lande by any takyng upon of lyke service yat any of yaim hath doon to ye same, and yat ye in noo wyse faille herein. Yeven &c. att Westm̃ ye xiiij. day of March ye yere &c. xxx.

To the Lord Clyfford.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 8. The Letter of credence alluded to in the preceding article, 14th March, 30 Hen. VI. 1452.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, Forasmuch as we have committed to our right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Clifford certain matiers greetly concernyng the worship and welfare of oure lande and of alle oure subgetts to be upened unto you, we wil that in that he or any other in his name shal shewe and declare unto you on oure behalve in this partie ye yeve full feith and credence like as ye herd us speke it in oure owne persone. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xiiij. day of Marche the yere &c. xxx^ti^.

[*Ibid.* art. 9. Letter from the King to Lord Clifford, dated 22nd March, 30 Hen. VI. 1452.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, We grete you well, lating you wite yat we wrote unto you but late agoo oure letters under oure prive seal bereing date the xiiij. day of yis moneth of Marche, by ye whiche we lete you wite oure purpos as towarde ye setting of a grete and notable armee to the see for ye causes specified in ye same oure letters, and yat as we have wele understande amonge all the persones in yis oure lande of what degree condition or astate yat yai be ye be as well disposed as we can desire you for to be, the which youre noble and courage disposicion is not lassed sith yat tyme as we have wele understande by ye reporte of a servaunt of youres late sent from you to th'entente to knowe oure disposicion and ye contynuaunce yerof, the saide matier of ye sending of ye which youre servaunt and ye perseveraunce of your said disposicion we thank you as hertely as we best canne. And as for spedy execution of oure entente and desire in ye saide matier as toward y^t^ that may goodly be doo by

you in thoo parties yat ye dwele in and fulfilling of ye specialitees comprised in oure said letters late sent unto you we sende you closed within yees an instruction conteynyng yadvises of us and of oure counsaille in yat behalf, to ye undelayed execution of ye whiche we pray you as hertely as we can effectuelly to entende, and oure Lorde have you in his keping. Yeven &c. at Westm ye xxij. day of Marche the yere &c. xxx.

To oure right trusty and welbeloved y^e^ Lorde Clyfforde.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 10. Copy of the Instructions alluded to in the preceding letter.]

Thees that folowen ben th'articles conteignyng the thinges that we desire to be executed by oure right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Clyfford with thoo that been specified in the letters directed unto him bering date the xiiij. day of this March.

First as towards the shippes bein as nowe in that countree, the which we desire to be encreced to be ordeigned and if the caas require it to be arrested to do us and this land service at this time and to be there vitailled and manned, the names ben such as folowe, that is to say, your owne shippe if it be redy, the Antony of Hull, the George of Hull, the Valentyne of Hull, the Trinite of Dertmouth clerk shipp, and if for any cause resonnable any of thees may not be hadde or if it be thought to your discrecion any other more behovefull thanne sume of thees to be hadde, that thanne ye dispose as it shalbe thought moost behovefull unto us.

Item that ye yeve knowelach and informacion to the owners of the said shippes and other persones of thrifte of the right goodewille and towardnesse that we fynde here in divers of thoo that been awners of shippes and in other personnes to vitaille at her owne charge and coste shippes such as ben here to ye see upon trust and hope of ye goode that shall growe to us and to oure lande therby and of the good fortune and lucre yt with Goddis grace shall also growe to thaim by the same, and yerupon do all the diligence that ye shall mowe to enduce such as ben owners of shippes there and othre personnes there to doo the same, of the which as we had information divers of thaim not long agoo were wele disposed and welwilled.

Item for as moch as we desire algates a m$^{l}$. personnes at the leest to be hadde oute of that countree to do us service in the said shippes, we wol that as towards yoo that ye shall not mowe purveye at the charge of vitailling of other personnes ye encrece and ordaine thaim to come at oure vitailling in semblewise as we doo sume here that is to say grauntyng thaim xij. d. a weke beside thair wynnyng of werr̃ such as by the custume of the see shall mowe growe to thaim.

And to th'entente yat ye shall mowe withoute lette or obstacle execute all that shalbe nedefull in ye matiers abovesaide, we sende you forthwith thees divers our letters patentes of commissions oon of auctoritee and power sufficient to rule and gouverne all yoo that ye shall bring with you for ye tyme conteigned in ye same an othre commission to arrest shippes maistres of shippes and mariners suche as shall nede for the rule governaunce and guyding of alle the said shippes that ye shall conduyte with you for oure said service, and to yeve you

ye more cause and courage effectuelly to execute this oure desire and entente we have ordeigned yat ye shalbe contented yerfore by way of rewarde of ye somme of c. marc̃.

Item as towardes knightes and notable squiers suche as ye shall mowe gete to accompaigny you and to have the rule of eny ooñ of the saide shippes and of ye felasship that is therin we have appointed that he that suche governaunce shall have shall have beside the vitailling of him and of his men and beside the geting that he shal have by the custume of ye see by way of rewarde the some of x. marc̃ or x. li. after your discretion.

And as towardes all such persones as ye shall have or withholde to do service in your company we wol that ye take of thaim such suerte as ye shall resonnably mowe gete that yai shall entend and obeye to your commaundement and to youre rule and nothing attempte ayenst any of thoo that be oure allies or yat stande in trewe with us or that have oure saufconduyt but only opone oure enemyes ye which been yees, ye subgits of ye King of Castell and Lyon Bretons and all yoo y$^{t}$ ben subgitts of oure adversarie of Fraunce and holde his partie excepte ye Duc of Bourgaigne w$^{t}$ whom we stande in trewe for suche contrees as belong unto him and ben in his rule and obeissance.

[*Ibid.* art. 11. Letter from the King to Lord Ponyngs warden of the east marches towards Scotland, Sir Robert Ogle lieutenant of Tindale, John Heron of Ford lieutenant of Redesdale, and Ralph Grey lieutenant of Roxburgh, 4th May, 30 Hen.VI. 1452.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved cosin, Ho it be that we have understande that now late certain things prejudi-

ciable and contrarie to th'effect and tenure of the trues and abstinences of werr̃ beyng betwix us and oure cosin the King of Scotts have be doo and attempted by certain of the subgetts of oure said cosin, and namely as we ben enfourmed suche as belong to the rewle and governance of th'Erle of Duglas, wherof certain oure subgitts have take occasion us not knowing to entre into the reaume of Scottelande and to commit semble attempts, the which if it should so at any tyme continue grete inconvenience were like to ensue therof, We therfor write unto you at this tyme willing and in the straitest wise charging you upon the faith and ligeance that ye owe unto us not wt standing the things abosaide ye by all the waies and meanes possible unto you observe and kepe and make to be observed and kept the said trewes after the tenure and continue of the same, lating you witte that if and whenne we shalbe advised for any causes resonable no longer to entende to the keping therof we shall late you have knowlech of oure entent, before which tyme we will that upon the pain above reherced ye ne doo nor in wise as ferr as in you is suffre to be doo by any othre thing that shall mowe sounde or be to the contrarie. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the iiij. day of May.

To our right trusty and weloved cosin ye Lord Ponyngs wardein of oure estmarchis towards Scotteland.

Item semble to Robert Ogle knight bailif and lieuetennant of Tyndale.

Item to John Heron of Ford lieuetennant of Reddesdale.

Item semble to Rauf Grey lieuetennant of Rokesbourgh.

[*Ibid.* art. 12. Letter from the King to Lord Poynings, dated 4th May, 30 Hen.VI. 1452.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cosin, We have understande and seen and made to be seen by lords of oure Counsail your letters late sent unto the moost reverend fader in God John archbisshop and cardinal of Yorke oure chaunceller conteyning how that certain things prejudicial and contrarie to th'effect and tenure of the trues betwix us and oure cosin the King of Scotts have now late be do and attempted by the subgitts of oure said cousin, as in youre said letters it is expressed more at large, and be right wel content of your advertisement and thanke you hertly therof, lating you wite that we have adressed oure letters of prive seel unto the persones named in the same youre said letters for y'entreteyning and keping of the said true according to your said writing and advertisement in semble fourme and after the tenure of such as we sende also to you with thees. Yeven &c. at Westm the iiij. day of May.

To oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin the Lord Ponyngs ut supra anno &c. xxx^mo.

[*Ibid.* art. 13. Petition to the King, with the Answer, 21st May, 30 Hen.VI. 1452.]

To the Kyng oure soverain lord.

MOOST mekely sheweth unto youre highnesse Robert Ponyngges youre true liegeman, that whereas he by another his petition unto the same youre highnesse afore tyme hath . . . . . howe there as in tyme of his streit emprisonement in youre Towre of London by youre most dredfull commaundement there was an exigend of treson in youre court afore youre justices of Oier and Terminer in youre shire of Kent assigned awarded ayeins youre seid true liegeman by his defaute by reson of the

same his emprisonement . . . . . myght have saved like as of recorde therof by youre commaundement certified into youre chancere and afterward by vertue of youre writte sende unto youre justices for . . . . . pleynly hith appereth, in which petition was conteigned the compleynt of the seid youre besecher of that that youre Eschetour of Sussex by coloure of the seide exigend . . . . . to youre most honurable handes seised alle the godes of youre seide besecher as to you forfaited by reson of his saide defaute, whiche as afore he myght not save . . . . where . . . . . : hit youre seide highnesse to be remembred howe ye of youre most habundant grace granted atte seide petition of youre seid besecher that he shuld not be endamiged . . . . . his saide godes and catall by reason of that exigend so awarded by such his defaute, and to considere soverain lord howe that not withstandyng youre seide graunte yet . . . . . youre seide then Eschetour the seide godes and catall into youre seid handes by reason of the seid exigend to seise and therinne to reteign he cesseth not unto the uttermost . . . . . of youre seid besecher and ayens alle reason gode feith and conscience, Wherefore hit please youre seid highnesse to grante youre severel writtes of supersedeas to be directed . . . . . Eschetours of Sussex and Kent theim chargyng to surcesse of theire seid seisin'o the seid godes and catal and youre seid handes therof t amoeve them delyvery . . . . . youre seid beseche withoute delay, and he shall pray to God and to Oure Lady his blessed moder for youre high and right noble estate.

At Shene. This bill was commanded by the Kyng to be put to execution after the tenure of the same, and was by the Kyng taken unto ye Deaune of P . . . . . of his prive seel to make letters to the Chanc̃ ye xxj. day of May ye yere &c. xxx^ti^, present my Lord Chanc̃ Somerset and Wynch̃ . . . . . .

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo primo.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. I. f. 234. *Original.*

Memorandum relative to the appointment of council on behalf of John Lyalton, the appellant, and Robert Norreys, the defendant, on an appeal of high treason, 11th May, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

M^d' that on the xj. day of May in the xxxj. yer̃ of the reigñ of owr̃ sov̊ayn̄ lord̄ Kyng Henr̃ the Sext at a court holden thēne in the Whit Halle at Westm̃ by Joh̄n Hanford̄ knyght lieuten^a^nte unto the rygh̄t noble P^i^nce f Edmond̄ duc of Som̄s̃ ⁊ constable of Englond̄ Joh̄n Lyalton̄ appelled̄ Rob̄t Norres of high̄ treson̄ the which̄ he surmitted̄ to have been̄ don̄ unto owr̃ seid̄ sov̊ayn̄ lord̄ by the seid̄ Rob̄t and the *said̄* Rob̄t denyed̄ that appelle to be true ⸝ wheropon̄ the seid̄ ꝑties joyned̄ battaill̄ to be don̄ betwix theym̃ and [the] xxv. day fro thēne next suyng thay wer̃ assigned̄ ⁊ limitted̄ ther̃ ⁊ by the seid̄ Lieuten^a^nt to do the seid̄ bataill̄ in Smythfeld̄ ⸝ and aft̊ that in the seid̄ White Halle at a court holden̄ byfor̃ the seid̄ Lieuten^a^nte at the speciall̄ request of both̄ the seid̄ ꝑties it was assigned̄ ⁊ lymitted̄ that ayther of the seid̄ ꝑties shuld̄ do that bataill̄ w^t^ certen weppens ⸝ that is to say ⸝ w^t^ gleyve short sword̄ dagg̊ ⁊ w^t^ axe instede of longe sword̄ ⸝ and at the request of the seid̄ Joh̄n Lyalton̄ ther̃ was assigned̄ Joh̄n Astley knygh̄t Thomas Parker Edward̄ Bronfeld̄ Thomas Mongomery ⁊ Laurence Reynford̄ squiers Philip Treher̃ ⁊ Thomas Parker armorer for to be of counsell̄ w^t^ the seid̄ Joh̄n Lyalton̄ for the p̊missez ⁊ Thomas Bee peynto^r^ for thyngꝭ concernyng the p̊missez and also Hugh̄ Joh̄n knygh̄t Elys Longworth̄ Thomas Meryng James Hyde ⁊ Thomas Keyle squiers ⁊ Thomas Cotton̄ wirdrawer wer̃ assigned̄ to be of counsell̄ w^t^ the seid̄ Rob̄t Norres for the p̊missez and also Everard̄ Frer̃ armorer ⁊ Piers Hulke peynto^r^ wer̃

assigned̄ to be attendant to the seid̄ defendant as for armyng ꝯt peyntur̄ the which̄ resonable shuld̄ belonge unto the seid̄ defendant for spede of the p̄missez ⸗ wherfor̄ ther̄ ough̄ to be made a p^ive seall̄ to the Chaunceller of Englond̄ for to directe a writte to the Shirefs of Londoñ that they make redy in all̄ thyng the place in Smythfeld̄ ayenst the seid̄ xxv. day ⸗ that is to say ⸗ in gravelyng ꝯt sandyng the seid̄ place ꝯt in makyng a scaffold̄ for the Kyng ꝯt barrers ꝯt lystez cov̄ably ꝯt sufficiantly for bataill̄ ther̄ to be hadde ⸗ also ther̄ agh̄t to be sev̄all̄ l̄res und̄ the p^ive seall̄ directe unto ev̄y ꝑsoñ assigned̄ or lymitted̄ for ayther of the seid̄ ꝑties for to do as it is above rehersed̄ ⸗ also ther̄ agh̄t a p^ive seall̄ directe to the Sergeant of the Kyngꝭ armory or to his deputie cōmaundyng hym̄ for to ordeigne ꝯt p^rvey sufficiaunt ꝯt cōvenient armor ꝯt weppeñ for ꝑformyng of the seid̄ bataill̄.

By the seid̄ Joh̄n Hanford̄ knyght.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 35. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Sir Thomas Stanley and Sir Thomas Harington, knights, dated 16th May, and, apparently, in the 31st Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Trusty and wellbeloved . . . . . is doo us to understande that oure right trusty and right welbeloved cousin the Duc of Excestre ⸗ oure right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Egremond ⸗ and other ⸗ make greet assemblees and gaderings of oure people to no good entent as it is noysed ⸗ for the which cause oure right trusty and right entierly welbeloved cousin the Duc of York protectour and defensour of this oure reaume draweth him by

th'avis of oure counsaill to thaime ward to redresse such inordinate demeanyng and to resiste thaire malice if nede be. For somoche we write unto you willing and desireing if in the contree where as ye be any persones wolde moeve theim and resorte to the saide gaderings that be all the meanes ye canne or may ye doo thaim in alle wises to surceesse and over that to waite upon oure said cousin Protectour and assiste him yf he soo commaunde you to doo w^t^ alle diligence might and poair that ye can make for the redressing of the saide assembles and evil disposed porpoos. Beside this also we wol desire and also charge you as ye love us and the well of this oure lande that ye so holde you in oonhed aswell with S^r^ Thomas Harington as alle other that by noon occasion of difference the people take colour to stire, in somoche as therby might ensue greet inconvenience seyng the disposition of the said riottous gaderings at this tyme, and in thoos things aforesaide ye shall do us right good service and singuler plesir, latyng you wite that in semble wyse we have writen unto oure trusty and welbeloved Thomas Harington knight. Yeven &c. at Westm the xvj. day of May.

To oure trusty and welbeloved
S^r^ Thomas Stanley knyght.

Item semble to Thomas Harington knyght.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii. Presentibus Dominis Episcopis Wintoñ Elieñ Norwic Lincolñ Decañ Sancti Severini Duce Buck Sař Canc Exoñ Wygorñ Thes Angliæ Comit Priore Sancti Johannis Duddeley Stourton &c.

T. Kent.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, C. i. f. 236. *Original.*

Petition of John Lyalton, who had appealed Robert Norreys of treason, with the Answers, between the 11th and 25th May, 31 Hen. VI. 1453. *Vide* Excerpta Historica, p. 391.]

To the King ouꝛ soverain lorde.

R. H.[1]

BESECHETH you mekely Joħn Lyaltoñ your liegemañ that it please unto your highnesse to have in knowlegge howe that in the courte holdeñ in your White Halle at Westm̃ byfore the right noble Prince Sir Emond̄ duc of Somset and constable of Englond̄ there appered I the seid Joħn Lyaltoñ and oone Roƀt Norres in ouꝛ ꝑpre ꝑsones, and I the seid Joħn than and there appeled ꝑe seid Roƀt of higħ tresoñ by him pꝛposed and moeved to have be dooñ unto you soverain lorde, and the seid Roƀt denyed that appele to be true, wheꝛ upoñ [we] the seid parties joyned bataille to be doone bitwene us, and it was assigned there by the court holdeñ upoñ Friday next after the feest of Ascencioñ of ouꝛ Lorde last passed[2] that we the seid parties shoulde doo bataiłł upoñ the xxv. day of Juyñ next now cōmyng̃ in Smythefeld̄, and after that for eyther of us ꝑe seid parties by ꝑe courte ꝑ̄e was assigned certein wepens wt the which we shulde fight and certein ꝑsones to be sev̄ally of ouꝛ counseiłł as for feates of armes and also an armurer and a peyntour after the custume in the seid courte of olde tyme used, Wherfor plese it unto your highnesse to yeve in commaundement to the Keper of your prive sealle to make in due fourme suc̄ and as many of your ꝛres under your pꝛve sealle as shalle be necessarie for ꝑe spede and the ꝑfoꝛmyng̃ of the

[1] The King's autograph.

[2] May 11th.

ꝑmisses and of echoñ of theym and of alle other thingꝭ concernyng̃ þe ꝑmisses in any manꝭe wise, and he shalle pray to Goḋ for you.

Lr̃es her̃upon wer̃ maad [to] þe persones named in cedules herto annexid þe day and date in þe same cedules exꝑssed and after the tenures in þe same cedules compⁱsed.

[*Ibid.* f. 234. *Original.*

Minutes of the Council, on or about the 23rd May, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

R. H.[1]

Be ther maad a pⁱve seel in due foʳme to the Chaunceller of Englande for to do make writtꝭ unto the Shirieffꝭ of Londoñ þay for to do make a skaffolḋ for the King ꝫ barrers ꝫ listꝭ sufficeant ꝫ covenable, and also gravel and sonde the grounde in Smithfelde wher̃ þe bataille shalbe at þe Kingꝭ costꝭ and expenses and þay ꝑꝫof to have allowance in thaire ferme that ꝫhay be to yilde unto us for þaire saide office.

Item be þer maaḋ an otħr pⁱve seel in due fourme to Jenkyn of Stanlay sergeant of þe Kingꝭ armures or to his deputee to do make . . . . . sufficeant and convenient armure and wepeñ and deliver it to Joħn Lialtoñ appellant for his figħt in Smitħfelde.

Item be ther maaḋ an otħr ꝫre of prive seel in due foʳme to Thomas Bee staynyoʳ ooñ of þe counsail witħ þe . . . . . for him at the Kingꝭ costꝭ and expenses suche thingꝭ for the saide battaille as belangetħ to his crafte.

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[1] The King's autograph.

[*Ibid.* f. 235. *Original* draught.

Letter from the King to Sir John Asteley knight and Thomas Montgomery esquire, dated 23rd May, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the K'.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, For asmoch as in þe courte holden in o^r White Halle at Westm̃ befor̃ o^r right der̃ and o^r right welbeloved cousin Edmund duc of Somset constable of Englande upon ~~appele~~ [an appelle] of high̃ treson ayenst o^r persone batail is joyned betwix Johñ Lyaltoñ ~~appelent~~ appellant and Robt Noreys defendant to be doon in Smythfelde þe xxv. day of Juyñ next cōmyng, to þe which Johñ Lyaltoñ ye be assigned to be of counsaile, We wol þerfor̃ and charge you þat [þerto] ye attende as þe lawe of armes [axeth̃] and requireth, and þies our̃ lres shal be unto you ~~herr~~ her̃ inne warrant. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ þe xxiij. day of May the yer̃ &c. xxxj.

f Johñ Asteley knight.
Tho^as Mungomerey squier.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to Thomas Bee, painter, dated 24th May, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By þe Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved, For asmocne as in pe courte halden in our̃ White Halle at Westm̃ befor our̃ rizt der̃ and rizt welbeloved cousin Edmond duc of Somset conestable of Englanꝺ upoñ an appelle of heigh̃ traisoñ ayenst our̃ psone bataille is joyned betwix Johñ Lyaltoñ appellant and Robt Norreys defendant to be dooñ in [West] Smythfeld the xxv. day of Juyn next comyng, to þe which Johñ Lyaltoñ ye be assigned to be of counsail, we wol þfor̃ and charge you þt þto ye attende, and also þt ye do &t make for þe said Lyalton such

þinge concernyng þe premisses as belangeth to yor craft, and we wol þt ye leve not þs and þt þees our lres be unto you herinne sufficeant warrant. Yeven &c. at Westm þe xxiiij. day of May, the yer &c. xxxj.

To Th Bee peyntor.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to Jenkyn Stanley esquire, dated 24th May, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By þe K'.

Henr' &c. to our trusty and welbeloved squier for our body Jekyn Stanley sergeant of our armures or to hs deputee in the same office gretyng. For asmoch &c. ut supa usq; to þe which et &c. sic, we wol pfor and charge you þt [in alle goodely haste] at our coste & expenses ye do be maad ~~& delivered~~ sufficeant & convenient armur & wepen for þe said batail and delivered to þe said John Lyaltoñ [for hs said fizt], and we wol þt þees our lres be unto you her inne sufficeant warrant, and þt by þe same ye have [pof] due allouance in yor accounte. Yeven ut supa.

[*Ibid.*]

By þe K'.

Henr' to þe Chaunceller &c. For asmoch ut px supa, we wol pfor & charg you þt ye do be maad our writte undr our gret seal in due fourme [and accustumed] to be directed to þe sherriefs of London [and of Midd] þt nowe be, comaundyng þeim by þe same þt at our coste & expenses þei do be maad ayenst þabovesaid xxv. day covenably & sufficeantly ~~barrers~~ in [West] Smythfeld barrers & lystes for þe said batail, and also to ordeine þt þe plac wher þt þe said batail shal be, be ayenst þe said day wel graveled and sanded, and also þt þei do make a convenient skaffold for us to have þe sight of þe said batail, and þt be þe same writte . . . . . .

. . . . . allouance in þeir accountꝭ of þeir offiꝭ of all such costꝭ & expenses . . . . . in þs behalf. Yeven &c. at Westm ut supa.

[*Ibid.* f. 236. *Original.* Petition to the King, from John Lyalton the appellant, with the Answer, dated 29th May, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

To the King our soverain lorde.

R. H.[1]

Besecheth' fulle mekely your true liege man John Lyaltoñ that where as I the seid John in your quarrell have joyned bataille wt oone Robert Norres in our ppre psones bitwene us to be dooñ in Smythfeld the xxv. day of Juyñ next commyng, which day approcheth fulle nere and I nat fully purveyed as yit of certein necessaries and other thinges to me pteyning and moost nedefulle for lakke of a certein of money to be hadde therfore, that it please unto your habundant grace the pmises considered to ordein and graunte that I your seid suppliaunt may have such a certein of money as shalle like your highnesse to yeve and graunte unto me, and here upoñ to yeve in charge and commaundement unto your Tresorer of Englond by your lres of prive sealle to make paiement of þe seid money unto me in alle hastie woise wt out any delay or excuse, and also to yeve in charge and comaundement unto Clampard your smyth for such wepens as me behoveth to have for the seid bataille under your lres of prive sealle, and he shalle pray to Godde for you.

þe lre herof was maad at Westm þe xxix. day of May, þe yer &c. xxxj.

The King wol he have v. mrcz, pntz my Lord of Worcestr tsorier of Englande and f Phelip Wentworth.

[1] The King's autograph.

[*Ibid.* Petition of Robert Norreys, the defendant in the said appeal, with the Answer, 22nd June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

To the Kyng oure soveyn lord.

R. H.[1]

BESECHETH' mekly yor pov ligeman Robt Norrys tha it please yor highnesse to have in knowlych how tha in yor Cort holden in yor White Halle at Westm befor the ryght noble prynce f Edmond duke of Somset yc constable of England there appered John Lyalton ' I in owre ppre psones , and the said John thanne ' there appeled me of high traison the whiche he sayd I prposed to have do unto yow soveyn lord , and denyed that appell to be trewe , wherupon we the said partyes joyned batayle to be doon betwene us , and i was assigned there by the cort holden upon Fryday nex aft the feste of the Ascencion of owre Lord last passe that we the saide partyes sholde do batayle upon th xxiij. day of July next now comyng in Smythfeld , an aft that for eyther of us the saide partyes by the cour there was assigned certayn wepenes wt the whiche w sholde fyghte and certayn psones to be sevally of owr counceill as for feates of armes and also an armorer a paynt aft the custume of the said cort of old tym used: Wherfore please it unto yor highnesse to gyve i comaundement unto the Keper of yor pryve seall t maake in due forme swyche t as many of yor lettre under yor pryve seall as shall be necessary for the spee t the pformyng of the pmisses and of echon of theyr and of alle othere thynges concernyng the pmysses i eny mane wyse , and he shall pay to God for yow.

The lre was maad herupon at Westm pe xxij. day o Juyn the xxxj. yer of the Kingt regne.

[1] The King's autograph, which occurs twice, in consequence of th first signature having been imperfectly written.

[*Ibid.* f. 237. Letters from the King to various persons, respecting the said appeal, dated 22nd June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved ⸝ For asmoche as in the courte holden in oure White Halle at Westm̃ befor̃ oure righ̄t dere and righ̄t welbeloved cousin Edmond duc of Somerset conestable of Englande upon an appele of high̄ treason ayenste oure persone ⸝ bataille is joyned betwix Joh̄n Lialton̄ appellant and Robert Noreys defendant to be doon in Smythfelde the morowe after Mary Magdalenes day nexte cōmyng[1] ⸝ to the whiche Robert Noreys ye be assigned to be of counsail ⸝ we wol therfor ꝯt charge you ꝯt evꝯich̄ of you [þat] þꝯto ye attende as the lawe of armes axeth̄ and requireth̄ ⸝ and we wol that ye leve not this ⸝ and thees oure l̄res shalbe youre warant. Yeven undre oure prive seel at Westm̃ the xxij. day of Juyn̄.

It̃ semb̄le l̄res to Joh̄n Cotton̄ wiredrawer Everard̄ Fre̅r armo^r^er and Piers Hulkꝭ paynto^r^ charging thaim þat therto þay attende ut sup^a^ and w^t^ this clause ⸝ and also furthermor̃ we geve you licence that to suche þingꝭ as conꝯneth̄ yo^r^ crafte ye be effectuelly attendante unto him and do it at his costagꝭ ꝯt exp̃n ⸝ and þees o^r^ l̄res shalbe unto you her̃in sufficeant warant. Yeven ut sup^a^.

To Hugh Joh̄n knigh̄t
Elys Langworth̄
Tho^a^s Keyle
James Hyde
Tho^a^s Mering squiers.

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[1] July 23rd.

[*Ibid.* f. 236. The following Memorandum is written in a contemporary hand, on a separate piece of parchment.]

Me$^{d'}$ q̃d in cur̃ milicie duellū vadiatū est int̄ Joh̃em Lyaltoñ appellantem & Robtum Norres defendentem comittend̄ in Smythfeld die Lune in crastino Sc̃e Marie Magd̄ p̄x̃ nunc futur̃ , & assignati sunt consiliarii p̄ appellante , videl̃t Joh̃es Astley miles Thomas Parker Edwardus Bromfeld̄ Laurencius Reynford̄ Thomas Mongomery armig̃i Ph̃us Treher fysh̃mong̃e ac Thomas Parker armurer & Thomas Bee pictor , et sīlit̄ assignati sunt consiliarii p̄ defendente p̄d̄co , videl̃t Hugo Joh̃n miles Elias Longworth Thomas Keyle Jacobus Hide Thomas Meryng armig̃i Joh̃es Cotoñ wyredrawer ac Edwardus Frere armurer & Petrus Hulke pictor.

[*Ibid.* f. 237. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 23rd June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453. Though dated in the 30th Hen. VI., it is certain, from the other articles respecting this "bataille," that that date is erroneous.]

R. H.[1]

Please it unto the King our̃ soverain lorde of your moost noble and benigne grace to graunte unto your humble true liegemañ Joh̃n Lyaltoñ which in yo$^{r}$ quarell̃ gracious lorde hath joyned batail̃ w$^{t}$ oone Robert Norres in their p̄pre p̄sones to be d̄oone bitwene theim in Smyth̃feld the xxiij. day of Juyl̃ next cōmyn̄g , that your seid suppliaunt may have ij. prive seals , that oone to be directed unto the Sergeant of your tentes or to the Yomañ of your same tentes in absence of the same Sergeant for a tente or paviloñ to be hadde for your seid suppliaunt the day of the seid batail̃ , and that

[1] The King's autograph.

other prive seall to be directed unto [Joħn] Clampard your smyth yeving him in charge and cōmaundement by the same to make in alle hasty wise for your seid suppliaunt such wepens as him behoveth to have for the seid bataille, and he shalle pray Godde for you.

Lres her upon wer maad as is above desired the xxiij. day of Juyn the xxx.[1] yer &c.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 36. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Lord Egremont, dated 7th June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved, For certain greet causes and considerations suche as moove us, and as most of reson sitte us nigh to hert we will and nevertheless straitely charge you y^t^ all excusations leide aparte ye in alle haste possible, seen thees oure letters, come personally unto oure presence to here and understande suche things as then shalbe opened unto you on oure behalf, and we woll that ye faylle not herein in any wyse and as ye love and tendre oure worship and welfare. Yeven &c. at Westm the vij. day of Juyn the yere &c. xxxj.

To oure right trusty and welbeloved ye Lord Egremonde.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii sui.

T. Kent.

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[1] Sic.

[*Ibid.* art. 37. Letter from the King to Lord Egremont, dated 26th June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

DIVERS tymes herebefore we have yeve you in commaundement by oure letters for suche causes as moeved us to have be and appered before us and oure counsaille at daies and place conteigned in the same, to the whiche oure letters and commaundement ye in no wyse obeying have differred so to appere, as ye yit doo, wherof we not w^t^ oute cause gretely mervaille and take it to displesir, willing for so muche and in the straitest wyse charging you eftesones that in all hast possible, seen thees oure letters, ye come and appere personelly befor us and oure saide counsaille to here and understande that shalbe laide before you at youre commyng, and over this that in the meane tyme ye bere and kepe the pees ayenst alle oure subgetts, no thing doing or attemptyng nor suffryng to be doo or attempted by any of youres in any wyse to the contrarie, and yat ye faille not in execution of this oure commaundement or any part therof upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxvj. day of Juyn the yere &c. xxxj.

To the Lord Egremonde.

[*Ibid.* art. 38. Letter from the King to Sir John Neville, dated 26th June, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, It is come to oure knowlache how by occasion of certaine discordes and debates moeved betwyx you and the Lord Egremond divers things and novelries contrarie to oure pees have of late daies be committed betwix you into grete trouble and vexation of oure countree and sugitts there, with the whiche demeanyng of reason we may not be well con-

tent, wherfore and for other causes moevyng us we woll and in the straitest wyse charge you that in alle hast possible after the recevyng of thees oure letters ye comme and appere before us and oure counsaille to here and understand suche matiers as shalbe opened to you at your commyng, and also that in the meane tyme ye kepe oure pees, nothing doing or attempting by your self nor suffring to be doo or attempted by any of youres that may be to the offense or hurt of the same oure pees, not levyng this oure commaundement upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm the xxvj. day of Juyn the yere &c. xxxj.

To our trusty and welbeloved John Neville knyght son to oure right trusty and welbeloved cousyn th'Erle of Salesbury.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii.

[*Ibid.* art. 39. Letter from the King to the Lord Grey of Rugemont, dated 11th July, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele, And for asmoche as we have certaine causes to be communed w^t^ you, the whiche concerne the weele of us and oure reaume and shall w^t^ the grace of oure Lord be to youre worship, we by th'advis of oure counsaill write unto you at this tyme, desireing and also charging you that in all goodly haste, thees oure letters seen, ye come to us and oure saide counseil to oure palois of Westm to hier and undrestande that that shalbe opened unto you at youre said cōmyng on oure behalf, and we will in no wise yat ye leve this as ye desire ye

welfare of us and oure subgetts. Yeven &c. at Westm the xj. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxj.

To the Lord Gray Rychemond.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, præsentibus Dominis Cardinal Somers Thes Priore Sancti Johannis Thorp &c.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 159. *Original.*

Letter from the King to ..... dated 20th July, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the Kyng.

Righ't trusty and welbeloved, Howe it be that by oure other lres of prive seel of the date at Westm the xiiij. day of this pnt moneth we willed and also charged you either to have sende unto oure tresore the cc. marc like as ye aggreed by mocon of or right trusty and welbeloved oure Tresorer of Englande to lenne us for socors of oure cousin therle of Shrouesbury and oure contree and subgitt there as he is in oure duchie of Guyenne, or elles to have appered psonelly before us and oure Counsaille at ctaine day nowe passed, as in or saide lres it was conteigned more at large. Nevthelesse that notwtstandyng ye neyther have sende the saide money nor appered according to or said comaundemt wherof we have greet mvaille. For somoche we write to you eftesones straitely charging you that as ye wol eschewe to be noted and taken for a letter and breker of tharmee whiche is appointed to be sende unto or said duchie for the said socors ye wt oute delay or tarying either sende by the berer herof the saide cc. marc unto oure said Tresorer or come in alle possible haste psonelly before

oure saiđ Counsaille to have knowlache of suche matiers as shall be declared unto you, and . . . . . herin upon the paine abovesaide. Yeven &c. at Westm the xx^ti. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxj.

To o . . . . . .
the . . . . . .

De man^do Reg^e per avisa^tu^ sui Consilii, pnt Dnis Car^l^ Cancell Epo Wintoñ Duce Som̃s Comite Saz Thes Angl Barone Duddeley Thoma Thorp &c. } Langport.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Nero, B. VII. f. 1. *Original.*

Letter from the King to Francis duke of Venice, dated 21st July, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

Henricus &c. dilecto nob Francisco Fuscari duci Venetorū illustri ac đnis de suo Consilio amicis ñris carissimis salutem cū omni dilectione. Illustris & magnifici viri, animi anxietate quadam percepimus humani generis inimicū omniū maloz seminatorem et patrem suis invencione et fraude int religiosissimū virū magrm supiorem ordinis Sci Johis Jerlm apud Rođn et illustre đniū vrm discordiaz fundamenta & odii jactasse ac displicenciā quand^a^m posuisse, que res q^a^m sit amara et toti Xpianitati ingrata eo maxime ostendit^r^ quo versilit majora sit productura picla, nam si infimaz et quandoq; viliū psonaz rancores inicia durissimis rebz prebeant et pessima concomitant^r^ exempla quales ex egregioz viroz turbacione exitus secuturos fore judicabimus ac cū religio ipa devota sit Xpianoz defensio ac ppugnat^i^x, supna ut nobis visum est disposicõe ordinata & pioz p^i^ncipū devocione

stabilita, iꝑi quaq; potentes sitꝙ strenui et illo siti climate quibꝫ ꝓfatū sc̄m ordinem plurimū refocillare poteritꝙ et eciam diu̇sis agitare nocumentꝙ si libeatꝙ, Dolemus merito minimā d̄iam apud vos subortam videre, ex qua uniu̇sale dampnū gen̄ari facilime valet, Auget ñri animi motus q̄d religiosi ordinis memorati nos et ꝑgenitores ñros int̄ p̄marios suos fundatores cōnum̄ant ex quo fit ut om̄i conamine niti oportet eoꝝ quieti ꝑvide᷑ et agere ꝑ ñra virili ne quoquo modo ledant᷑, Q̄mobrem illustris et magnifici viri v̄ras gravitates et amicicias ex intimis hortatas facim᷒ et rogam᷒, refellat᷑ diabolica fraus et malicia qui exit seminare semen suū in orto v̄ro, extinguant᷑ ejus incendia quibꝫ dulcissimos . . . . . amicicieq; nexus qui diu viguisse int̄ vos et ꝓfatū Xꝑi ordinem dinoscunt᷑ consum̄e anelat et devorare, deleant᷑ ex animis v̄ris rancores q; . . . offenditꝙ sine dubio, et si forsan displicencie data ex aliquo sit occ̄ão abscidat᷑ prudencia v̄ra qua max̄e preditos vos ẽe . . . . . ad . . . moveant in Dño requirim᷒ Salvatoris ñri exempla qui venit dare pacem hō̄ibꝫ qui ꝑ pace ñra passus est qui acceptans . . . . . q̄m offerre v̄timas, ista dilectionibꝫ v̄ris intimamus, ista suadem᷒, ꝑ hiis apud vos preces agim᷒ et sine dubio gaudebim᷒ . . . . . Ceterū ni p̄nciaꝫ haꝫ lator Joh̄es Langstrother ꝓfati ordinis miles valde ob sua m̄rita et g̈atissima servicia nobis accep . . . . . patrias et districtus anteq̄m Rodū attingat quo tendit, ꝑpterea ex novo rogam᷒ q̄tinus iꝑm recōmissū ñri . . . . . t̄ctare velitꝙ uti v̄ros ñris regnis t̄ dominiis t̄ctari cupitꝙ et in illis complacere eid̄m que a v̄ris magnificenciis . . . . . ñram instanciā efficere q̄d navigio v̄ro o᷑e suo ꝑduci valeat usq; Rodū illo non obstante decreto et mandato q̄d . . . . . littora it̄m, In hiis om̄ibꝫ non parū amicicie

vre nobis complacebūt quas Altissimꝰ votive cū ꝑspitate confvet. Scrip . . . . . Westmonastii [sub ñro privato sigillo] xxj. die Julii anno &c. xxxjmo.

De mandato Regis ꝑ avisãtum sui Consilii.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 40. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Lord Fauconberg, dated 25th July, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved cousin, We greet you wel, lating you wite that it hath be reported unto us and oure Counsaile howe that as touching the ml. marc̃ which in partie of paiement of ml. li. yerely assigned unto you for ye kepyng of oure castell of Rokesbourgh ye sholde yerely take of the custumes and profitts cōmyng in and upon oure port of Newcastell, it was nowe late accorded and aggreed betwix our right trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Salesbury and you, than being present oure trusty and welbeloved Johan Wode clerc unto oure Tresourer of England, that ye sholde receyve and take yerly in oure said port two parties of the saide custumes and proffits and oure saide cousin of Salesbury for suche dutee as belongeth unto him, the thridde part, unto the tyme ye were contented of the saide ml. marc̃, to the whiche accorde oure saide Tresorer of Englande hath aggreed him, And howe it be that hereupon oure letters patents in due fourme be made and ensealed, yit neverthelesse the moost reverent fadre in God Johan cardinal and archebysshop of Canterbury oure Chanceller of Englande

differreth to make deliverance of thaim unto the tyme that he be certified from youre self of the saide aggrement, Wherefore we write unto you at this tyme exhortyng that with alle diligence and spede possible ye by writyng late oure said Chanceller have knowlache of youre entente in this behalf, considering that the souner the saide letters be putte to execution the rather th'effect of the conclusion desired thereby shall ensewe. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxv. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxj.

To the Lord Faucomberge.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 41. Letter from the King to the Earl of Salisbury, dated 27th July, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cousyn, For as moch as we be acertaigned by credible information that of late dayes grete assembles and riottous gaderings of people have be made in the shire that ye dwelle in, as wel by your sone S^r^ John Nevill knyght as othre persones, unto right grete vexation and trouble of oure contre and subgitts there, directly ayenst oure lawes and pees, by ye which to grete an inconvenience were like to ensew if it were not hastily purveied for, We therfor write unto you at this tyme exhorting and in ye straitest wise also charging you that ye by all the wayes and meanes possible unto you doo your effectuell labour and diligence that the said assembles and gaderings of people be put downe and utterly ceesed and that ye see our pees be kept by you and yours, not suffring any thing to be doo or attempted to the con-

trary by any personne as ferforth as ye shall mowe, and over this that our trusty and welbeloved counsailler William Lucy knyght and other our commissionours which we sende thider at this tyme for the saide cause be obeid in all things as it accordeth for our honnour and worship and the conservation of oure lawes, not levyng this upon the feith and ligeaunce that ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxvij. day of Juyll.

To th'Erle of Salesbury.

Item semble to th'Erle of Northum̃ for his son the Lord Egremond.

[*Ibid.* art. 45. Letter from the King to Lord Egremont and to Sir John Nevill, son of the Earl of Salisbury. The date of this letter does not appear; but judging from the preceding and following one, it is presumed to have been written on or about the 27th July, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, For as moche as we be credibly enfourmed yat divers riottous assembles and gaderings of people have of late dayes be made in the contree yat ye dwelle in, and so yit continue, to the which ye have take upon you to be leder and so yit be, contrary unto our lawes and to greet trouble of oure pees and subgetts yere, We wol and in the straitest wyse charge you yat incontinent, seen yees oure letters, ye putting downe and departing all suche assemblees and gaderings, kepe oure pees and be obeying unto oure commissioners yat we sende yider at yis tyme for this cause, of the which we have deputed and ordeigned oure trusty and welbeloved counsailler William Lucy knight to be oon, and we wol yat ye faile not herein upon peyne of forfaiteur of all your goodes and landes

and upon ye feith and ligeance yat ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye

To ye Lord Egremond.

Item to oure trusty and welbeloved John Nevill knyght sonne to oure right trusty and welbeloved cousyn the Erle of Salesbury.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Langport.

[*Ibid.* art. 43. Letter from the King to Sir John Conyers, Sir James Pickering, and others, dated 27th July, and apparently in the 31st Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

It is comen to oure knowlach how divers riottes routes and gaderings of people contrary to oure lawes and pees of late dayes have be made and yit contynue in the shire and contree that ye dwelle in, unto grete trouble and vexation of oure subgitts there, by occasion whereof irreparable inconvenience were like to folowe that God forbide olesse than hasty provision were made in this behalfe, of the which routes and gaderings ye have be a grete sturer and moever and also leder, wherof we gretely marvaille and take it as we nedes must to right grete displesire, For so muche we wol *and* in the moste straiteest wyse charge yowe that ye surceesing of alle such gaderings and riots makeing and thoo that so been made deviding and utterly ceesing kepe, oure pees, noo thing attempting or doing or suffring to be doo or attempted by any of youres or other any thing contrarie to oure pees, and more over that ye duely be obeying unto oure trusty and welbeloved counsailler William Lucy knyght and other oure commissioners whiche we sende at this tyme thidre for the said cause in alle things concernyng th'execution of oure lawes and con-

servation of oure pees, not levyng soo to doo upon pein of forfaiteur of alle youre landes and goodes and upon the feith and ligeaunce that ye owe unto us. Yeven under our prive seell at Westm̃ the xxvij. day of Juyll.

To John Conyers
James Pekering
Rauffe Randolf
Thomas Mouneforth } knyghts

Ric̃ of Aske
Rauf Neville
Thomas Sewer
John Aclom } squiers.

[*Ibid.* art. 44. Another letter from the King on the same subject, dated 27th July, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, For asmoche as we have understande by credible reporte made unto us howe yat by unlawefull assembles and gaderings of people made in divers parties in ye contree yat ye dwelle ynne ye same oure contree and subgitts yerof have be and been gretely troubled vexed and uneased, we sende yider at this tyme oure trusty and welbeloved counsailler William Lucy knyght with oure letters of commission with oyer to enquere of suche matters and to doo yat yat may be to ye reformation of yat is doon oyerwyse yan oure lawe wold and so to conservation and keping of oure pees. For so muche we write unto you exhorting praying and neverthelesse charging you upon ye feith and trouth yat ye owe unto us yat at such tyme as ye shall be requyred by oure said counsailler, ye favoure and assiste him by alle menes to you possible in all ying yat may concerne th'execution of oure lawes ye leying downe and ceesing of such assembles and

gaderings ye keping of oure pees and good rule and tranquyllitee of oure saide contree and subgitts, and yat ye faille not herein in any wyse. Yeven &c. at Westm the xxvij. day of Juyll ye yere &c. xxxj.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 159. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Mayors and custumers of Dartmouth, Plymouth, Fowey, and other ports, dated 6th August, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, For as moch as we for the relief socours and defense of oure duchie of Guyenne and pe confort and help of oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin Therle of Shrouesbury and other oure subgitt pere have ordeigned a greet and notable armee to be sende thidre in alle haste, we write unto you at this tyme desiring & praying you hertely pat by alle peweyes & menes possible unto you, ye on oure behalve sture moeve trete & enduce all pe oweners & maisters of pe shippes & vesselles pat belonge unto oure porte of Dertemouth to be redy with pair saide vesselles & shippes to accompaignee oure saide armee towardes oure saide duchie by pe feste of Saint Bartholomew next comyng[1] at ye ferrest, and pat ye faille not herein as ye love & tendre pe worship & welefare of us & of all pis oure lande and pe seuretee of oure saide cousin & duchie. Yeven &c. pe vj. day of August pe yere &c. xxxj.

To pe Mayer & custumers of Dertmouth.
To pe Mayer & custumers of Plymmouth.
To pe Mayer & custumers of Fowey.

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[1] August 24th.

Trusty &c. / Forasmuch &c. ut supra usque ibi enduce / tunc sic / and also charge þe oweners & maisters of such shippes as be bounde to Bourdeaux warde þis yere oute of oure haven̄ þere þat þay drawe þaim towardꝯ oure porte of Sandewiche or Hamptoñ so þat þai be þere by þe feste of Saint Bartholomew next cōmyng at þe ferrest to accompaigne oure saide armie towarꝺ oure saide duchie / and þat ye faille not &c. ut supra.

To þe Maier̄ & custumers of oure towne & port of Lynne.

It̄ semble to þe Baillyef̄ & custumers of oure porte of Orwell̄.

De man^to Regis p avisa^tu' sui Consilii / p̄ntib3 Dñis Thes̄ Decano Sci Severini Thorp̄ &c.

LANGPORT.

[*Ibid. Original.* Letter from the King to the Mayor of London, dated 7th August, 31 Hen. VI. 1453. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 214-216.]

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved / We late you wite that not long agoo for late setting forth of an armee disposed to goo into o^r duchie of Guyenne / we certaine alome of divers marchauntꝯ of Jene to the sōme of viij^ml^. l̄i. [bought] and it solde to divers marchauntꝯ & citezens of divers craftes w^tin o^r citee of Londoñ / yeving thayme lycence to utter the same alome with increce of ij. s̄. of everie l̄i. as in an act therupoñ made plainly appereth / And it is soo that the said marchauntꝯ and citezins be contented of the sōme that thay bought it

fore and thincrece of the saide ij. ŝ. of the pounde resteth̄ stylle in thaire handes undevided, We not doubting but that yo$^{r}$ greet discrec̄on and wisdom considereth̄ wele what charges and costes daily in many behalves resteñ upoñ us and in esp̄iall̄ for the defense and saufgarde of oure saide duchie the relief and socours also of o$^{r}$ right̄ trusty and welbeloved cousin the Erle of Shrouesburye and oth̄r o$^{r}$ subgittes such̄ as he is accompaignied̄ of ther̄ and saufgarde of the see, we wol praie and neverthelesse straitly charge you that all̄ the saide m̄chaunt̄ and citezens that bought̄ the said alome ye do call̄ afore you moevyng entretyng and also charging thayme in such̄ wise that they and everich̄ of thayme do ease us at this tyme of all̄ thencrece of the saide alome, that is to say of every pounde ij. ŝ. by way of lone, for the which̄ thay shall̄ have sufficiant assignement upoñ the xv$^{me}$. paiable unto us at Mydsomere next cōmyng, the which̄ we doubt not thai wol soo doo considering o$^{r}$ said charges and costes and that it is clerely wynny . . . . . thayme, and in case that any of the saide m̄chaunt̄ and citezens wol in no wise be entreted by you to ease us at this tyme of the said encrece, we wol than that ye w$^{t}$oute delaye certifie unto us and oure counsaill̄ of thaire names and of the quantite of the alome bought̄ by thayme, charging you moreover that by the othes of xij. trewe men of o$^{r}$ saide citee ye do enquere and thereupoñ certifie also unto us and o$^{r}$ saide Counsaill̄ what alome hath̄ be sold by hem or by any other mchaunt̄ or citezens of o$^{r}$ said citee to gretter encrece than thay were lycenced to or ell̄ sold any oth̄r alome than was bought̄ of us during the tyme conteyned in the said acte, And we wil that ye leve not this as ye lust to do us singuler pleasir and as ye love the suertee and saufgard of o$^{r}$ said duchie

and subgitte. Yeven &c. at Westm the vij. day of August the yer &c. xxxj.

To or trusty and welbeloved the Mair of or citee of London.

De mandato Regis p avisatu' sui Consilii / pnt Dnis Thes Custode privati sigilli Priore Sci Johis Jhrlm & Thorp.

FOSTON

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 42. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Sir Ralph Percy, Richard Percy, Sir John Penyngton, and others, dated 10th August, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

IT is comen to oure knowlache howe divers riottes routes and gaderings of people contrarie to oure lawes and pees of late dayes have be made and yit continue in the shire and contree that ye dwelle in / unto greet trouble and vexation of oure subgetts yere / by occasion whereof to irreparable inconvenience were like to folowe that God forbide olesse thanne hasty provision were made in this behalf / of the whiche riottes and gaderings ye have be a greet sturrer and moever and also leder as we be right credibly enformed / wherefore we greetly mervaille and take it as we nedes must to right greet displesir / For so moche we woll and in the moost straitest wise charge you that ye surcessing of all such gaderings and routes making and thoo that so ben made dividing and utterly ceesing kepe oure pees / noo thing attempting or doing or suffring to be do or attempted by any of yours or other asmoche as in you is any thing contrarie to oure pees / and moreover that ye duely be obeying to oure trusty and welbeloved counsailler William Lucy

knyght and other oure commissioners whiche we sende at yis tyme yider for the saide cause in alle yinge concernyng the execution of oure lawes and conservation of oure pees, not levyng so to doo upon paine and forfaiteur of all youre landes and goodes and upon the feith and ligeaunce yat ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the x. day of August the yere &c. xxxj.

Sr Rauf Percy
Ric̃ Percy
Sr John Penyngton

Sr Henri Fenwyk
Sr William Martindale
John Swynbourne squier.
Rolande Kyrkeby
Henri Belingham
William Lee
squiers.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii.

Foston.

[*Ibid.* art. 46. Letter from the King to the Mayors and Sheriffs of Bristol and Hull, dated 11th August, 31 Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, It is so yt oure armee nowe by us ordeigned to goo into oure duchie of Guyenne for the sure and saufegarde yerof of oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Shrouesbury and of oure subgitts that he is accompaigned of ther shal be redie to take the see towardes oure saide duchee wtin shorte tyme, and it is so as we *are* enfourmed yt oure adversaries by all the waies and meanes to hem possible laboren daily to assemble a greet navie upon the see to entre the rivour of Gyrond to th'entent that thay shold mowe lette the passages of oure saide armee and as muche as in thaym is to the destruction of the same, that God defende, We wol therfor and straytely charge you that in oure towne of Bristowe ye do make open proclamation

charging and commaunding on oure behalfe the maistres mariners and all other persones disposed nowe this yere to goo unto oure saide duchie to be redy afore oure port of Falmouth w^t^ there vesselx and shippes the xxvij. daye of this present moneth of August, there to entende and awaite upon oure saide armee, ye whiche so assembled togedre shal by the grace of oure Lorde w^t^oute difficultee sure entre into the said river, not failling so to doo as thai desire thair owen and oure saide armee sure passage the suretee and saufgard also of oure saide duchie and subgitts. Yeven ondre oure prive seel at Westm̃ the xj. day of August the yere &c. xxxj.

To oure trusty and welbeloved the Maire shiriefs and baillifs of oure towne of Bristowe.

Item semble lres to the Maire and baillifs of oure towne of Hull.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, præsentibus Dominis Thes̃ Custod̃ privati sigilli Thorp et Decano Sancti Severiñ.

Foston.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 160. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Mayor of Southampton and others, dated 4th August, 31 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, We late you wite that we fully trusting in youre greet wisdomes sadnesse and discrec̃ons, have ordeigned and deputed you and everich of you and by thees oure lres yeve you and everich of you full power and auctoritee to weye utter and so selle to oure moost availle and encresse all suche peces

of tynne as nowe late were by oure commaundement arrested within oure towne of Southamptoñ for the hasty settyng forthe of oure armee nowe ordeyned to be sent into oure duchie of Guyenne for the saufgarde therof and the seuretee of ouꝛ right trusty and welbeloved cousin therle of Shrouesbury and of other oꝛ subgettꝭ that he is accompanyed of and also of the see. Wherfore we woll and charge you and everich of you that aboute the premisses ye diligently entende and doo to be executed for the cause aforesaide. and in cas that ye can in noo wyse fynde the meanes of utteraunce of the saide tynne to be made within oure saide towne we woll thanne and straitely charge you. that of as moche as ye do make sale of ye do sende the moneye unto oure tresorie in all haste possible and the remenaunt unsolde ye do purveye and ordeyne that it be sent and caried unto oure citee of Londoñ. morover charging you and ev̄ich of you that all suche ꝑsones as clayme any propertee in any parte of the saide tynne that ye remitte theim to the lordꝭ of oure Counsaill at Westm̄ where and by whome it shall be purveied for theire contenting and paiement and in suche wyse as shall be goode and sufficeant unto theim. and that ye ne nooñ of you faille herof as ye luste to do us singuler plesir and as ye love the seuretee and sauf garde of oure saide contree and subgittꝭ. Yeveñ &c. at Westm̄ the xiiij. day of August the yeꝛ of oꝛ regne xxxj.

To ouꝛ trusty and welbeloved Andrewe James maire of oꝛ towne of Southamptoñ Joñn Ewerby Thomas Osberñ Symkyn Edward Laurence Moyen and to ev̄ich of theim.

De manᵗᵒ Regis ꝑ avisamentū sui Consilii. ꝑntibꝫ Dñis Theſ. Thorp̄. Decano Sc̄i Severini.

Foston'.

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo secundo.

[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 520. *contemporary* MS.
Letters from the King to the Earl of Westmoreland and the Bishop of Durham, dated 8th October, and apparently in the 32nd Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Righ't trusty and welbeloved cosin / We have understande by credible reporte made unto us the greet labours paines and diligences that ye have nowe of late tyme dooñ and doo daily for the letting and appesing of suc̄h troubles and unlawful gaderinge of people as not long ago have be and yit as it is saide contynue in the contree the̅r ye dwelle and the̅r a boute / and that ye in no wise thoug̅h ye be nyg̅h of blode and allie to the ꝑties making suc̄h assembles have favoured or lened in suc̄h unfittȳg demenyng to that ooñ ꝑtie or to that othe̅r / butt have be redy and be̅n to helpe strengt̄h and assiste suc̄h lordes sp̄uel and tempel the̅r as ben fully disposed and sette indifferently to the cōservac̄on of our pees easing and ceessing of the saide gaderinge and good and restful governance of ou̅r saide contree and subgitte / of which your good disposic̄on and sadde demenyng we be rig̅ht wel content and thanke you sp̄ially / willyng exhorting and also prayng you hertely so to contynue / whe̅rin ye shal do thing ful acceptable unto God to ou̅r saide contree and subgittes behoveful and ꝑfitable and rig̅ht plesant to us and thankeful and cause us to be the more desirous to do thing that may be to yo' pleasir and behove. Yeven unde̅r ou̅r prive seel at Westm̄ the viij. day of Octob̅r.

To therle of Westmer̄l.

I t̄m semble to the revent fader in God our rig̅ht trusty and welbeloved cosin the Bisshop̄ of Duresme.

[*Ibid.* f. 521.

Letter from the King to the Archbishop of York, dated 8th October, and apparently in the 32nd Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Moost reverent fadeꝛ̃ in God ouꝛ̃ right trusty and welbeloved, We have understande by credible reporte made unto us that ye according to the degree and astate that ye stande in have goodly and godly doo youꝛ̃ parte and daily do to thappesing and ceesing of suche troubles and unlawful gaderingꝭ of people as not long agoo have be and yit as it is saide continue in the contrees that ye dwelle in, deserving theꝛ̃in as we can you right grete and spial thanke, willyng exhortyng and also prayng you hertely that ye wol so contynue and that ye wol not departe frome that contree unto the tyme the saide trouble and unlawful assemblees be fully appesed and extint as ouꝛ̃ pfite trust is oñ you, understandyng for certaine that heꝛ̃in ye shal do thyng ful acceptable to God to ouꝛ̃ saide contree and subgittes behoveful and pfitable and right plesant to us and thankeful and cause us to be the more desirous to do thing that may be to youꝛ̃ pleasiꝛ̃ and behove. Yeven undeꝛ̃ ouꝛ̃ prive seel at Westm̃ the viij. day of Octobꝛ̃.

To tharchebisshop̃ of Yorke.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to the Earls of Salisbury and Northumberland, dated 8th October, and apparently in the 32nd Hen. VI. 1453.]

By the Kyng.

Cousin, Howe it be that at al tymes before this ye have be holde a sadde a sober and a wel reuled man as it sitteth̃ you in al wyse so to be, and somoche the more for the degree and astate that ye stande inne, the which

is ordeined you not to abuse it but to use to the worship̃ of God and to the ꝑvice and supportac̃on of us in keping̃ of our̃ pees and of o^r lawes ⸗ to the which̃ ye owe to do so moche the grett̃ diligence that ye be oon̄ of the cōmissioners of the pees in the contrees that ye dwelle inne ⸗ and also stande charged oon of the lordes of oure Counsail ⸗ in receivyng of the which̃ charge ye were sworne that yf ye sholde from that tyme forth̃ hiere of any debate betwix lord and lord by stiring of the which̃ the good reste and pees of this oure lande migh̃t in any wyse be letted or troubled whom soever of thaime it touched ⸗ ye yf it touched you sholde be reuled by the lordes of oure said Counsail ⸗ and in no wyse take upon̄ you the reule therof at yo^r owne hande ⸗ the which̃ notwithstanding and also that in oure Parlement which̃ is yit contynued[1] ye and all̃ oth̃r lordes wer̃ warned that yf any of you felt him grieved ayenste other shold putte in his grief in writing ⸗ and besides this notwithstanding the straite charge and cōmaundement yeven unto you nowe late by oure l̃res of prive seal by the which̃ ye sholde have putte you in yo^r devoir̃ by al meenes possible to the ceessing and putting downe of thassemblees and gaderingꝰ remembred in the same oure l̃res ⸗ ye w^toute any request or complaint made to us of any grief do unto you have sith̃ that tyme as it is saide take upon̄ you or be disposed to take upon̄ you contrarye to oure saide cōmaundement and also to oure pees and lawes ⸗ to make the grettest assemblee of our liegemen and therto have appointed tyme and place that ever was made w^tin this oure lande at any tyme that man can thinke ⸗ the whiche yf it so be do or heraft̃ happe to be doo by you youre ordenaunce or appointement yf any of oure

[1] No notice of this fact occurs on the rolls of that Parliament.

liegemen be perisshed by the meane therof we wol that ye holde for undoubted that aswel ye as thoo that have be counsailling and helping you therin shal so be so chastised that bothe ye and thay and al other oure subgitt shal have matier and cause to eschewe to attempte any thing like herafter. And as toward you yf ye so have attempted ayenste oure estate and yours, defvyng therby to be straunged from thoccupacion of the said astate that ye stand we shal in no wyse spare you in this cas, but rather more grevously punyssh you than we wolde do the leste persone of oure lande, the which neverthelesse as oure Lord knoweth we wold be right lothe to doo. Yeven &c. at Westm the viij. day of Octobr.

To oure cousin therle of Saz &c.
Item semble to or cousin therle of Northumbr.

De manto Regis p avisatu' sui Consilii, pnt Dnis Carle Epo Herford Duc Buck &c.

LANGPORT.

[*Ibid.* f. 520.

Letter from the King to Lord Egremont and Sir John Neville, son of the Earl of Salisbury, dated 8th October, 32 Hen.VI. 1453.]

Howe it be that not long agoo we putte you to the worship and astate of Baron[1], not for any greet service that ye hadde do to us before that tyme, but for the trust and trowing that we hadde of the good service that ye sholde do us in tyme comyng, in espiall in keping of the rest and pees of oure lande and in letting of alle that sholde mowe be to the contrarye,

[1] Thomas Percy, a younger son of Henry, third Earl of Northumberland, was created Baron of Egremont, to hold to him and his heirs male, on the 20th November, 28 Hen.VI. 1449.

neverthelesse we be credibly enfourmed that ye ne use not the saide astate to the saide entente but to the contrarie, deservyng therby to be straunged therfroo, in espiall in that that notwtstanding oure lres late addressed unto you bering date at Westm the xxvij. day of Juyll last passed[1] by the whiche we yave you in the straitest wyse in comaundement upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us to putte downe and departe alle suche assemblees and gaderingc of people as at that tyme ye hadde made and arraised ayenst oure pees, in comocon and trouble of oure subgittc of the contree that ye dwell, in and to kepe or peax, like as it was conteigned in the same oure lres, ye ne have in any wyse obeyed nor accomplysshed oure saide comaundement, but as it appereth wel in contempt therof have multiplied and daily do gaderynggc of people of oure subgittc redy to goo to the feld as by credible reporte we have undstande ye dispose you fully to doo as it were in lande of werre, unto full greet hurt unease and trouble of or saide countree and subgittc and of lyklyhode to destrucc̃on and undoying therof, that God forbede, if it were not sette apart, Wherfore we wol and in the moost straitest wyse charge you as before that havyng consideracon to the nonn observance of the contynue of oure saide lres the contempt that ye be ronne in ayenst us in that behalf and the charge that may be leyde upon you therfore in tyme comyng, ye in restfull and peisible wyse departe such people as ye have assembled and surseesse of suche noveiries as ye have begonne, keping oure pees and makyng it to be kept by alle yours and other as ferre as in you is, and that ye faille not so to doo upon

[1] *Vide* p. 148, *antea*.

paine and forfaiteur̃ of all̃ that ye may forfaite unto us and upon̄ the feith̄ and ligeance that ye owe unto us. Yeven̄ ꝛc. at Westm̄ the viij. day of Octobr̃ the yere ꝛc. xxxij.

To the Lord̄ Egremond̄.

It̃m to ꝑ John̄ Nevyll̄ knygh̄t son̄ to Therle of Saꝝ begynnyng at notwith̄standyng ꝛc.

[*Ibid.* f. 522.

Letter from the King to the Duke of York, dated 24th October, 32 Hen.VI. 1453.]

By the King.

Right trusty and righ̄t welbeloved cousin ⸗ We sende unto you at this tyme oure trusty and welbeloved Thomas Tyrell̄ knigh̄t oon of o^r counsailleurs to whome we have cōmitted certaigne credence to be opened unto you on oure behalf ⸗ Wherfore we will̄ that in the thingꝭ that he shal open to you in oure name ye yeve [unto him] ful feith̄ and credence ⸗ And for asmuche as we be enfourmed that ye have received no suche l̄res as we wrote oute for thassemblee of this oure Greet Counsail we sende unto you by the said ꝑ Thomas newe l̄res of the same contynue and tenure that the rathre were. Yeven ꝛc. at Westm̄ the xxiij. day of Octobre the yere ꝛc. xxxij.

To the Duc of York.

[*Ibid.*]

Instruccon yeven̄ by the King oure souverein lord by thavis of his Counsail to Thomas Tyrell̄ knigh̄t whome he sendith̄ to the Duc of Yorc at þ^is tyme.

Furst he shal p̄sent his l̄res which̄ be of credence and aftir that he shal say that nowe late the King for

suche causes as moeved him hath called and do to be assembled a Greet Counsail here at Westm̃ and that amonge othre thinge that moeved his highnesse oon was to sette rest and unioñ betwixt the lorde of this lande. And for asmuch as there hath bee and yit as it is supposed is variance betwixt hym and sum othre of the lorde, therfor the King will that he in al godely haste dispose and come to the said Counsail peasiblie and mesurablie accompanied. Yeven as above.

De mandato Regis p avisatu' Consilii, p̃nt̃ Dñis Wintoñ Roffeñ Norwic̃ Saz Lincolñ Epis, Thes̃ Sudeley Duddeley Prior̃ Sci Johannis. } T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 164. *Original.*

Minutes of the Council, 6th December, 32 Hen.VI. 1453.]

The vj. day of Decembr̃ a° xxxijdo. H. vjti. it is avysed assented & ordeyned by my lorde of þe Kynge Counsell þat for asmoche as c̃teyne sõmes of money of necessite muste be hastely pvyded for þe expenses of þe Kynge hous þat a sufficiant warant be made to my Lord Chaunceller that he make as mony lres patentes & writtes as shall mowe be sufficiant necessary & behovefull to do. D. sakkes of þe Kynge woll to be shipped for þe Kyng & in his name in carrekkes galleys shippes or other vesselles and by suche psones & in suche portes as it shall seme moste exspedient and necessary to my Lord Tresorer of Engelond for redy money to be hadde, and þe seyd wolles so shipped to be caryed out out of þis royalme in to suche parties of þe Kynge amite as shall be þoght to þe same psones moste exspedient for

þe sale of þe same, without eny custume or subsidie þ̄of to be asked̄ claymed̄ or payed̄ t̄ without eny impediment or delay by reson of a statut made in þe Parlement holden̄ at Westm̄ and ended̄ at Wynchestre the xxvij$^{th}$. yere of þe regne of þe Kyng oure sov̄eyn̄ lord̄ or eny other statut or statutes in to þe contrary made notw$^{t}$standing̃.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| I. Car$^{l}$ | R. York | |
| W. Ebor̄ | | Jasper |
| T. London' | | R. Warrewyk |
| W. Wynton' | | J. Worcestre |
| T. B. Elien' | | Bourgchier. |

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[Bibl. Cotton. Nero, B. vii. f. 2. *contemporary* copy.

Letter from the King to Francis duke of Venice, dated 13th March, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

Henricus t̄c. dilecto nobis Francisco de Fuscari duci Venetor̄ illustri ac dominis de suo Consilio amicꝯ ñris ex intimis salutem. Illustris et magnifici viri principū t̄ magnatuū exposcit nobilitam vulgariq̄ caritate stringunt$^{r}$ om̄es favore p̄sequi quos sibi noverint aliqua ex parte benevolencia conjūctos fore majori igit$^{r}$ animo ad eos p̄tractandū benevole insurgere debemus apud quos majora merita habent$^{r}$ et quando p̄fatim in res egregias tote X̄pia$^{ti}$ utiles sua corpa t̄ vires conferre conant$^{r}$ studeantq̄ suo piculo alior̄ quieti p̄videre, verum postq$^{a}$m illa rabies Teucrorum adeo in X̄pianos infremuit plangendaq̄ tote X̄pianitati subduccio Constantinopolis sit insecuta magnificus et religiosissim$^{9}$ vir Sc̄i Joh̄is Jer̄lm Magnus Magist$^{r}$ Rhodi se forc̄orem efficere studens et potenc̄orem contra p̄fator̄ Teucrorum nephandum prin-

cipem canem rabidū sang̃is Xp̃iani effusione debacatū statuit aliquos sibi milites ordinis sui ex hoc regno ñro Anglie ad se evocare qui de p̃nti licencia ñra ad eum ꝑperant harū quid̃m latores viri utiq; nobiles qui cū ob piissimā causam ꝑ dominia ⁊ strictus ṽra it̃ agere habeant valde hortam^r ⁊ rogamus ip̃os recōmissos suscipe velitꝭ quod q^a mq^a m facturi estꝭ ob zelum quē in religionē Xp̃ianā geritꝭ non dubitam⁹ ⁊ adaugeant tamen favorē petimus ñre preces similem consequent^r apud nos instancie ṽre fructum si aliquando eis agere decreveritꝭ ꝑ ñro favore subditꝭ ṽris impendendo ⁊ Res ista Deo grata erit et nobis in sing̃larē complacenciā ṽris quoq; gravitatib; honorē quas felicissime cū ꝑspitate viṽe cupimus. Script̃ apud palaciū ñrm Westm̃ xiij. die Marcii anno ⁊c. xxxij°.

Anno mense die ⁊ loco [p̃dc̃is] Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit q̃d conficerent^r l̃re sub privato sigillo suo sc̃d̃m tenorē sup^a scriptū ⁊ p̃ntib; Dñis Duce Eboꝝ locūtenent̃ parliamenti Cancell̃ ⁊ Archiep̃o Eboꝝ ⁊ Ep̃is Londoñ Wintoñ ⁊ Duce Bukꝭ et aliis. } T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 165. *Original.*
Minute of the Council, 15th March, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

Decimo quinto die Marcii anno ⁊c^a. tricesimo secundo apud Westm̃ in cam̃a consilii tempe parliamenti advisatū ⁊ deliberatū fuit ꝑ d̃nos de Consilio q̃d Dñs Cancellari⁹ Anglie fieri faceret commissionē[1] in forma

[1] Letters patent were accordingly issued on the 6th of April following. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 347.

Magistris Johanni Arundell' Johanni Faceby et Willmo Hatclyff medicis Magro Roberto Wareyñ & Johanni Marchall' cirurgicis ad infrascripta libere ministrand' et exequend' in et circa personā Regis. In primis q̄d licite valeant moderare sibi dietā juxta discreciones suas et casus exigenciā. Item q̄ in regimine medicinaliū libere sibi possint ministrare electuaria. pociones. aquas. sirupos. confectiones. laxativas medicinas in quacūq; forma sibi graciori et ut videbit' plus expedir'. clisteria. suppositoria. capudp'gia. gargarismata. balnea. vel univ'salia vel pticularia epithimata. fomentacões. embrocacões. capit' rasurā. unctiones. empīra. cerota. ventosas. cū scarificacõe vel sine. emoroidaz provocacões. modis quibz melius ingeniari poterit & juxta consilia peritoz medicoz qui in hoc casu scripserunt vel impostez scribent.

Ordinatū et deliberatū fuit ut sup^a d̄nis se subsc^ibentibus ut patet. et mandat' Custod' p^ivati sigilli q̄d warrantū conficeret p̄fat' Cancell' ad effectum suprascriptū. } T. Kent.

J. Car' Cant'
W. Ebor'
W. Wynton'
R. N. Dunelmēs' R. York H. Bukingh^am
T. B. Elien' Jasper R. Warrewyk Oxenford'
Jo. Wygorn' Devon' Talbot
W. Norwicen' R. Salisbury
J. Hereford'n' Wylteshir'
J. Lincoln' R. Graystok
R. Covētren' & Lich' W. Faucomberge
J. Clynton'
Scrop' Stourton'
R. P^ior off Saint Joh'ns Bourgchier
W. Fynis. Wyllughby

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 273. *Original.*
Minutes of the Council, 30th March and 1st April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

THE xxx^ti^. day of Marche the yere &c. xxxij^ti^. at Westm̃ in the Counsail Chambr̃ tyme of Parlement it was advised and ordenned at the desire and request of the cões of this lande that the right revent fadre in God the Bisshop of Ely for his greet mite vertues and greet bloode that he is[1] of, shold be recõmised to o^r^ holy fadre the Pope for to be pmoted to tharchiebisshopriche and chirche of Cantbury nowe beyng voide by the deth of the moost revend fadre [in God] Joh̃n Kempe late cardinal and archiebisshop of the said see. It was also the furst daye of this moneth of Aprill in the place abovesaid graunted and ordenned that Maistr̃ William Gray shold in semblable wise be recõmised to the bisshopriche and chirche of Ely and to be pmoted therto at suche tyme as it shall voide by the t^a^nslacon of the right revend fadre abovesaid. It was also advised and assented, considered the bloode vertue and cunnyng that Maister George Nevill soon to therle of Salisbury chauncellr of England is of, that he shold be recõmised to the said holy fadre for to be pmoted to the next bisshopriche that shall voide w^i^n this reaume, the pmocons abovesaid of Cantbury and Ely furst sped and doon, and that hereupon lres undre [pe] King^e^ p^i^ve seel to be ordenned and sped.

Anno mensib3 dieb3 et loco sup^a^scripte advisatũ fuit q̃d Custos p^i^vati sigilli lras fieri fac̃ sub eodm sigillo sc̃dm effm sup^a^scriptũ dnis se sbscribẽtib3 ut p3. } T. KENT.

[1] Thomas Bourchier bishop of Ely was the third son of William earl of Ewe (by Ann Plantagenet, daughter of Thomas of Woodstock duke of Gloucester, younger son of King Edward the Third,) and brother of Henry viscount Bourchier, earl of Ewe in Normandy, and earl of Essex.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| W. Ebor̄ | R. Warrewyk' | R. P'or of Saint Johns. |
| T. London' | J. Worcestre | Scales |
| W. Winton' | Devon | J. Duddeley |
| R. Dunelmēf | R. Salisbury | Thomas abbas Glouc̄ |
| J. Wygorn' | Beaumont | Ricardus abbas de Bello |
| W. Norwicen' | Bourgchier | Joh'es abbas de Selby |
| J. Lincoln' | W. Faucomberge | W. Fenys |
| J. Herefordē | Wylteshir' | E. Bergevenny |

R. York
H. Bukingh'm

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F. xiii. f. 36. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 1st April, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

Henricus &c. Cancellario ñro salutem. Cum de gr̃a ñra sp̃iali ex assensu et deliberac̃one Consilii ñri concesserimus dilecto nobis Mag̃ro Thome Mannyng uni capellanor̃ ñror̃ decanatum libere capelle ñre Sancti Georgii infra castrum ñrm de Wyndesore per mortem ultimi decani ibidem vacantem, habend̃ cum suis juribus et ptineñ quibuscumq̃, vobis mandamus q̃ ℔as inde sub magno sigillo ñro in forma debit̃ fieri faciatis. Dat̃ sub p'vato sigillo ñro apud Westm̃ primo die Aprilis anno &c. xxxij^do. Anno mense die et loco predictis mandabat' p̃ avisa'tu' d̃ci Consilii [Custodi p'vati sigilli] q̃ fieri faciat ℔as sub eod̃ sigillo sc̃d̃m tenorē sup^ascript̃.

Concessū fuit ut s^a. T. Kent.

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|---|---|---|
| W. Ebor̄ | R. York | J. Worcestre |
| J. Lincoln' | H. Bukingh'm | Devon |
| W. Wynton' | R. Warrewyk | J. Duddeley |
| J. Hereford'n' | Wylteshir | Beaumont |
| W. Norwicen' | Wyllugheby | Grey |
| R. Covētren' & Lich' | R. P'or of Saint John'. | Scales |

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 274. *Original.*

Minute of the Council, 8th April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 347.]

In camera Consilii tempe ꝑliaᵗⁱ apud Westm̃ octavo die Aprilis anno ⁊c. xxxijº. religiosi viri Joħes Goldewell ⁊ Walterus Hertford monachi eccl̃ie Xp̃i Cantuarien̄ ꝑntarunt d̃nis de Consilio l̃ras Prioris et capit̃li d̃ce eccl̃ie Cantuar̃ sub sigillo suo capitulari d̃no ñro Regi directas sub eo qui seqⁱtʳ tenore verboꝫ. Magne celsiⁿⁱˢ pⁱncipi int̃ terrenos pⁱncipes strenuissime d̃na . . . d̃no suo benignissimo d̃no Henrico Dei gr̃a Regi Anglie ⁊ Francie ⁊ d̃no Hib̃nie illustri, sui h̃mles ⁊ devoti oratores Thoᵃˢ pⁱor eccl̃ie Xⁱ Cantuar̃ ⁊ ejusd̃ loci capitˡᵘ' parati ⁊ vigiles reverenciā õimodā et honorē cū devotaꝫ oracõnū suffragiis qᵃntū valent, Cum eccl̃ia ñra Cant̃ p̃dict̃ ꝑ mortē recolende memorie Dñi Joħis Kempe nup̃ Cant̃ archiep̃i quod nō sine dolore et cordis merore scribere jā urgemur sit pastoris solacõ destituta, Regie v̄re celsiⁿⁱ humilit̃ supplicamus univ̄salit̃ singuli et singularit̃ univ̄si qᵃtinus eligendi nobis ⁊ eccl̃ie ñre p̃d̃ce futurū pontificē licēciā dignetʳ concedere, v̄re regalis immensitas magestatis ad quā quidē licenciā a v̄ra regali sublimitate graciosius et celerius impetrand̃ dilectos ñros confr̃es ⁊ cōmonachos Joħem Goldewell ⁊ Walterū Hertford latores p̃nciū ad v̄ram metuend̃ p̃nciam destinamus devote supplicantes quatinus eos dignetʳ v̄ra clemencia regia realit̃ ⁊ effectualit̃ exaudire, in eo qui princeps est ⁊ dñs regum dilatetur et floreat [inclitū] regnum v̄rm. Dat̃ Cant̃ in domo ñra capitulari tercio die mensis Aprilis anno Dñi mill̃o cccc°. quinquagesimo quarto. Quibus quidem l̃ris apertis et lc̃is Rex p avisaᵗᵘ' sui Consilii d̃co octavo die Aprilis mandavit Custodi pⁱvati sigilli q̄ fieri

faciat sub eodē sigillo ℔ras Cancell' Anglie dirigend' mandando eidem quatinus fieri faciat sub magno sigillo ℔ras patentes in debita forma de ℎmõi licencia quā d̄ci prior et capitul'm p̄ suas p̄fatas ℔ras supplicando petunt &c.

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|---|---|
| W. Ebor' | H. Bukingh'm |
| W. Wynton' | Oxenford' |
| R. Dunelmēf | Talbot |
| T. Elien' | Devonshire |
| J. Wygorn' | J. Pembroch |
| W. Norwicen' | R. Salisbury |
| J. Hereford' | Worcestre |
| R. Coventren' & Lich' | Wylteshire |
| | R. P'or of SaintJoh'n |
| R. York | J. Duddeley |
| R. Warrewyk | Edward Bergevenny. |
| Bourgchier | |

Anno die mense & loco sup'scriptis actū fuit ut sup' & d̄nis se subscribentib3 ut patet. } T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F. xiii. f. 39. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 12th April, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

Plaise hit to the Kyng oure souverain lord̄ by thadvis of his Conseil to graunte unto his humble liege man Thomas Colt oon of the chambrelains of his chequer his liveree of clothing and furre for the fest of Cristenmasse last passed̄ such̄ as any of the said̄ chambrelains of youre saide chequer had̄ or aught to have had̄ ayenst the saide fest & to bee taken at youre greet warderobe by the handes of the Keper of the same for the tyme being & And ferthermore to graunte to the saide Thomas yerely

as longe as he shal have and occupie thoffice of oon of the saide chambrelains youre liveree of clooth furre and lyneur aswel for somme as for winter, in like manne and fourme as amplie and as good as any of youre saide chambrelains hath had and taken for that cause at any tyme heretofore. To bee had and taken yerely from tyme to tyme at youre saide warderobe by the saide handes, and that the Keper of youre privee seel for the tyme being make such and as many lres undre the same seel to the Keper of the saide warderobe for the tyme being for thexecucion of the premisses as therefore shal bee thoght necessarie behoveful and expedient.

Duodecimo die Aprilis a° &c. xxxij^do. apud Westm in camra Consilii tempe Pliamenti Rex p avisatu' sui Consilii voluit et mandavit qd Custos privati sigilli facere faciat sub eodm sigillo lras in debita forma, dnis se subscribentibz ut patet.

T. KENT.

W. EBOZ
J. LINCOLN'
W. NORWICEN'
R. YORK
R. WARREWYK
WYLTESHIR'
WORCESTRE
W. FAUCOMBERGE
R. SALISBURY.
BEAUMONT
R. P^r OF SEINT JOH'N
WYLLUGHBY
BOURGCHIER
J. DUDDELEY
GREY
W. FENYS
RIC' ABBAS DE BELLO
SCALES.

[*Ibid.* Minute of the Council, 15th April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

THE xv. day of Aprill the yere &c. xxxij^ti. at Westm in the Counsaill Chambr tyme of Parlement the King by thadvis of his Counsaill consideryng that the vj. day of

Feve the said yere it was ordenned and avised that aswell writt as prive seele shold be directed to the collectours of the xv^me^. and x^me^. half xv^me^. and x^me^. graunted in the plement begonne at Redyng[1] yit enduring, charging theyme to paye noe sōmes nor tailles of sōmes assigned for Irland sauf oonly to the Tresourer of England, unto the tyme yt were discussed and determyned who is or aught to be lieuten^a^nt of the said land, and that noo taille rered for the said Irland sholde be allowed to the saide recevours, as it is conteigned in the said acte, And for asmoche as it is nowe aggreed and accorded undre certaine fourme betwix theym that claymed the right of the said lieuten^a^ntsie so as it is no lenger to be doubted whoo oweth to be lieuten^a^nt there, the King by the said advis wol and ordenned that his Chaunceller of England directe writt undre the greet seal and the Keper of his p^i^ve seell ires undre the same seel to the said collectours, also to the Tresorer and Barons of pe eschequier . . . notw^t^standing the said furst cōmandement they paye and allowe the said tailles so assigned for Irland in man and fourme as the said tailles aske and require and according to oure assignement made for the said Irland.

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|---|---|---|
| T. B. Elien' | Devon | . . . . . |
| W. Norwicen' | Wylteshir' | J. Duddeley |
| R. York | Worcestre | Fenys |
| R. Warrewyk | Bourgchier | |
| R. Salisbury | Scales | |
| H. Bukingh^a^m | R. P^i^o^r^ Sci Joh'is | |

[1] *Vide* Rot Parl. vol. v. p. 228.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 165. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Duke of York and several other peers, dated 16th April, 32 Hen.VI. 1454, summoning them to attend the Council at Westminster.]

RIGH'T trusty and right welbeloved cousin, It oweth to be take right negh to herte to alle oure true subgitt and lovers the nedeful and behoveful prveaunce to be had as wel for þe restful reule of this oure reaume inneward as for the defense þ̄eof outeward and sp̄ially for the saufgarde of oure towne of Calais and þe marches there, For somoche we have ordenned that or Counsaill for the goode direc̄on of the said matiers shall in goodely haste be assembled at oure paloys of Westm̄ aft̄ this fest of Pasche, of the which ye be oon, therfore we write unto you at this tyme willing and charging you straitely that alle excusac̄ons ceessing ye be at oure said paloys of Westm̄ the vjth. day of May next cōmyng there to entende to the furthering and spedyng of the said matiers and such other as shalbe cōmuned of at youre commyng, And we wol ye leve not this as ye desire the weel of us oure lande and subgitt and the saufgarde of or said towne of Calais and marches of the same, lating you wite we shal not thinke that ye tendre oure said weel and worshiþ as yor duete is to doo yf ye straunge you to come at þat tyme as oure desire is ye sholde. Yeven &c. at Westm̄ the xvj. day of Aprill the yer̄ &c. xxxij.

T. B. ELIEN'
W. NORWICEN' R. YORK·
R. SALISBURY J. WORCESTRE WYLTESHIR'
BOURGCHIER
WYLLUGHBY CLYNTON' R. Sc̄i JOH'IS
SCALES J. DUDDELEY.

To { The Duc of York / The Duc of Norff / The Duc of Bukᵉ

To { The Archebysshop of York

To { The Bysshop of Winchest / The Bysshop of Ely / The Bysshop of Norwich / The Bysshop of Chestr / The Bysshop of Lincoln

To { The Erle of Warr / Therle of Oxon / Therle of Saz / Therle of Worcest / Therle of Shrowesbury

To { The Viscont Beaumont / The Viscont Bourchier

To { The Pior of Saint Johns / The Lord Cromwell / The Lord Sudeley / The Lord Scales / The Lord Dudley / The Lord Stourton

To { Sir Thomas Stanley knyght / John Say squier

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 304. *Original.*

Copy of the Letters sent by order of the Council to various peers, dated 17th April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

Right trusty and right welbeloved cosin, We holde for certaigne the feith trouth and love that ye owe and bere unto us to the vele also of this oure reame and subgittᵉ compelleth you to put you in your ful devoir in aidynge and helpinge the jepart and distresse that oure towne of Caleis standith in, the which is like to be in to grete

adaungier wᵗoute the faveur̃ and help̃ of oure trewe subgittꝭ and lovers ⸗ for as we be crediblie enfourmed̃ oure adversaries wᵗ al the mygħt they can make dispose in al haste to besige oure said̃ towne ⸗ and to that entent have ordeigned̃ as grete an armee and ordinaunce to come thidre aswel be lande as by water as is to theim and their̃ allies possible and suche as hath not be seen at any tymes ⸗ Notwᵗstandynge we by the grace of God̃ and assistence of oure trewe subgettꝭ purpose to wᵗstand̃ their̃ said̃ malice ⸗ and as toward̃ such̃ lordes of this our̃ lande as have be p̃sent nowe late in oure parlement [1] thay have as kindely tendirly and lovyngly shewed̃ theim unto us as evir didde subgettꝭ to their̃ prince ⸗ evich̃ of theim grauntinge a notable numbre of people at their̃ charge for the rescowes of the said̃ siege and many of thaim to goo in their̃ p̱sones ⸗ For somuch̃ we write unto you exhortinge desiringe and also prayenge you that ye callinge to your̃ remembraunce what a jewell̃ the said̃ towne of Caleis is to this oure reame ⸗ wᵗ what labour̃ peyñ and outerageous costes it was subdued̃ to oure obeisaunce ⸗ what noissaunce it schuld̃ be [to] us and alle oure subgettꝭ if it were lost that God̃ defende ⸗ wol accordinge to thastate that God̃ hath sette you in schewe your̃ goode wille and zele that ye bere unto us in grauntinge money or peple for this oure grete necessite in saufgarde of oure said̃ towne of Caleis to be redy at suche plase as we schall assigne wᵗin xv. daies warnynge ⸗ And we wol ye certiffie us and oure Counsaille in alle possible hast of that that ye wol doo for us atte this tyme and so that we may thinke ye tender the welfare of us and the saufgarde of oure saide towne of Caleis. Yeven atte Westm̃ the xvij. day of Aprill̃ the yere ꝛc. xxxij.

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[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 234-236.

ꝛ Bathoñ ꝛ Welleñ
Bangore
Wigorñ
Roffeñ
Exoñ
Assaveñ

ꝛ De Burgo Sc̃i Petri
Sc̃i Joħis Colcestr̃
Sc̃i Edmundi de Bury
Sc̃i Albani
De Berdeney
De Selby
Sc̃i Benedic̃i de Hulmo
Glastoñ
De Croylanđ
De Malmesbury
De Bello
De Salopia
De Cirencestria
De Thorney
De Evesh$^{a}$m
De . . . . .
De Wynchcombe
Sc̃i Augustini Cantuar̃
De Redyng
Prior de Coventr̃

ꝛ Dux Norff
Dux Exoñ

ꝛ Richemonđ
Pembrochie
Northumbrie
Arundełł
Westm̃łł

ꝛ Dñs de Groby
Berkley
Ponyngꝭ
Botreaulx
Dacre
Beauchamp̃
Audeley
Scrop̃ de Masseh$^{a}$m
Zouche
Scrop̃ de Boltoñ
Lovełł
Clyfforđ
Grey de Wyltoñ
Wessy
Roos
Hoo
Gray Richemonđ
Saintamonđ
Egremonđ
Willughby
Say
Berners
Grey de Codnore
De la Ware
Straunge
Ferrers de Charteley.

De man$^{to}$ Regꝭ ꝑ advisamentū Consilii sui ꝛ p̃nt̃ Dñis Eboꝝ Duce Thes̃ Cancełł Ep̃is Elieñ ꝛ Norwic̃ P$^{i}$ore Sc̃i Joħis ꝛ ał. } T. Kent.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 76. a modern *Transcript*.
Letter to the Earl of Northumberland, 10th May, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cousin, It is as it must needes be in youre fresh remembrance the trouble that hath of late tyme be in the cuntrey there as ye be by occasion of certaigne differences betwix oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin th' Erle of Saŕ now oure Chanceller of Englande[1] and the Lord Egremond your son, the which hath disobeied divers oure commandements sent unto him as wel by writyng as oyerwise in full straunge and evile example to many other, with the which demeanyng we be nothing welle content but right gretely displesed as we have cause soo to be, and specially in somuch as oure peax and subgitts were and bee gretly troubled yerwith and was like grete inconvenience to have ensued had not be the discrete mediacion of the moost reverende fadre in God th' Archibisshop of York and othre. For somuche we bering in oure minde the saide straunge demenyng and offense to us and oure lawes doon by the causers of the saide trouble, purposing also to provide and ordeigne that from hensfurth no such things shal be attempted, think youre presence here w^t^ us and our Counsail should be right expedient. Therfore and for such causes as moeve us specially the whiche shalbe shewed and opened unto you at your commyng, we desire woll and also charge you that ye be w^t^ us and oure said Counsail at our palois of Westm̃ the xij. day of this next moneth to here that shalbe declared unto you at youre commyng. And we wol ye leve not this in enywise. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the x. day of May the yere &c. xxxij.

To th' Erle of Northumberland.

[1] The great seal was delivered to the Earl of Salisbury on the 2nd of April in this year. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 344.

[*Ibid.* art. 77.

Letter from the King to Lord Roos, dated 10th May, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, For suche causes and matiers as specially moeve us and oure Counsail and suche as us thinke full expedient to be shewed and opened unto you, we wol and charge you that ye be w^t^ us and oure said Counsail at oure palois of Westm the xxvij. day of this present moneth, to here and understande the saide matiers the which at that tyme shall more at large be declared unto you, And we woll that in noo wise ye leve this. Yeven as above.

To the Lord Rosse.

[*Ibid.* art. 78. Letter intended to be sent from the King to Lord Poynings and Sir Ralph Percy, 10th May, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.; but which was not forwarded.]

By the King.

Ista littera non emanavit.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, For suche causes as moeve us and oure Counsail and suche as we must nedes take hede of for oure worship according also to oure duetee we have avised to have speche w^t^ you, For so muche we wol and charge you that alle excusations ceassing ye be w^t^ us and oure saide Counsail at oure palois at Westm the ij. day of the next moneth to here and undrestande suche things as shalbe declared unto you at your commyng, And we wil in noo wise ye leve this oure commaundement. Yeven &c.

To the Lord Ponyngs
To Rauf Percy knight.

T. B. Ely R. York Bourgchier
J. Worcestre R. Sci Johis.

[*Ibid.* art. 79.

Letters from the King to the Sheriffs of Lancashire and Derby, 10th May, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, For certaine causes us and our Counsail moevyng we direct at this tyme our severall letters of prive seel unto Nicholas Langford knight and Waltier Blount squier to be and appere before us and our said Counsail in all hast after the sight of our said letters, the whiche we sende unto you herw^t. We wol therefore and in the straitest wise charge you that w^toute delay or tariyng, seen these our letters, ye make delivrance unto the said Nicholas and Waltier of oure said letters so as is abovesaid to thaim directed. And that ye faille not herein in any wise. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the x^th. day of May the yere &c. xxxij.

Item semble letters to y^e Shirief of Lancastr̃ to deliver prive seels directed to Thomas Pylkyngton and Piers Legh squiers. } To the Shirrief of our countee of Derby.

[*Ibid.* art. 80.

Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, 11 May, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and right welbeloved cousin, For certaine considerations us and oure Counsail specially moeving, we wol desire and also charge you that w^toute any faille ye be w^t us and our said Counsail at oure paleis of Westm̃ on Thursday next commyng, to th' entent that our said Counsail may have communication w^t you in suche thinges as at your commyng shalbe opened unto you, and that ye faille not in any wise as oure trust is

in you. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xj. day May the yer &c. xxxij.

To the Duc of Excestr̃.

Mandabatur Custodi privati sigilli litteras fieri facere secundum tenores suprascriptos.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 82.

Proceeding of the Council, 24th May, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

Henri &c., to the Tresorer and Barons of oure eschequier gretyng. For as moche as by auctorite of oure last Parlement begonne at Redyng and ended at Westm̃ it was ordeyned and stablysshed by auctorite of the same[1] that every lord sperituell and temporell the whiche came not to the said Parlement fro the xiiij. day of Feverer last passed unto ye last day of the same moneth sholde paie unto us a certaine somme, provided that such as might not for sekenesse or feblenesse come, shold not be comprised in the said acte but they shold paie such a fyne as sholde be thought resonnable to the lords of oure Counsail, as it is more at large expressed in the saide acte. And in somuche as it hath be surmysed before us and oure said counsail that divers lords aswele sperituell as temporell of this oure reaume were soo seeke or feeble that they myght not or were not able to come to oure said Parlement w'inne the tyme specified in the said act, that is to say E. bysshop of Excestr̃ Thomas bisshop of Bathe

[1] The Parliament alluded to met at Reading on the 6th March, 32 Hen.VI. 1453, and on the 11th February following adjourned until the 14th of that month to Westminster. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 227, 238, 239. The proceeding mentioned in the text will be found in p. 248 of that volume.

and Welles J. bisshop of Rouchestr̃ th' Erle of Westmerlande th' Abbot of Saint Albons th' Abbot of Berdeney th' Abbot of Saint Benets of Hulme the Abbot of Glastyngbury th' Abbot of Croyland Edward Gray lord of Groby Robert Hungerford the elder knight John le Scroop of Massam chivaler William Zouche of Harringworth chivaler William Lovell chivaler and Thomas Hoo chivaler, oure saide Counsail hath take juste and indifferent examination of their saide sekenesse and feeblenesse and by the said examination found that it was soo trouthe, Therfore according to the saide acte the saide lordes of oure Counsaill have assessed the said lordes and everich of thaim atte fine in maner and fourme as foloweth, the said Bisshop of Excestr̃ iiij$^{xx}$. marc̃, the Bisshop of Bath and Welles iiij$^{xx}$. marc̃, the Bisshop of Rouchestr̃ xx. marc̃, th'Erle of Westmerlande l. marc̃, th'Abbot of Saint Albons x.. li., th' Abbot of Berdeney xx. li., th' Abbot of Saint Benets of Hulme xx. li., th' Abbot of Glastyngbury xl. li., th'Abbot of Croyland xxx. li., Edward Gray lord of Groby xx. li., Robert Hungerford y'elder knight xx. li., John le Scroop of Massam chivaler xl. marc̃, William Zouche de Harryngworth chivaler xl. marc̃, William Lovell chivaler xl. marc̃, and Thomas Hoo chivaler xx. li., the which assessyng of fynes soo made by the said lordes of oure Counsaill we sende and notifie unto you to th' entent that ye procede to the leveye therof and to all oyer things that apperteigneth unto you in that behalf. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of May, the yere &c. xxxij.

W. Eboz̃ Norff
W. Wyntoñ R. Salisbury
T. B. Elieñ Oxenford
W. Norwiceñ J. Worcestre
J. Lincolñ R. S$^{ti}$ Joh̃is Stourton

Anno mense die et loco prædict̃ Rex de avisamento dominorum de Consilio suo suprascript̃ mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere litteras sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem prænotat̃.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 83.

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 27th May, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

To the right honorable and most discret Councell of the Kyng oure soverayne lord.

SHEWETH unto youre right honorable and wyse discrecyons John duc of Norfolk that where atte shire for to be holden at Yepeswych in the shire of Suff the Munday next after the fest of Seynt Volantyne last passed[1] ther come divers servauntz and tenantz of the seide Duc to the election of the knyghtes of the shire for the last Parlement ther for to have yoven ther voyse to the knyghtes of the shire after the lawe of this lande there, Thomas Sharnburñ at that tyme shereve of the seide shire ymagynyng and purposyng to make knyghtes of the shire aftyr his owne intent and for his syngler covetyse and to hurt the servants and tenants of the seide Duc, hath retourned in the Comen Place a rescous of many and divers servants and tenants of the seide Duc whose names be annexed to this bylle, surmyttyng be hys retourn that his officers durst not holde the shire aforeseide be cause of manas and thretes made to hys officers as he retourned in the Comen Plase aforesaide, where that the seide servants and tennants of the seide Duc made never no suych maner of fors rescous nor

[1] February 18th.

manas as the seide sherreve hath retourned, but that thei pesibely kome to the shire hous for the election of the knyghtes of the shire after the lawe of this lande, Wherefore please it youre right wyse and noble discresions to sende oure soverayne lordys letters to the justicez of the Comen Place commandyng them to admytte alle the servants and tennants of the seide Duc conteined in the seide bylle to apper by attourne and to answer be attourne, consyderyng that full many of the seide servants and tennants which ar innocent persones be retourned in the seide rescous ayens all maner of reson and consciens, of the which diverse and many were not there at that tyme as shall suffisauntly be proved atte reverens of God and in the weye of charite.

W. Eboz̄ R. Salisbury
W. Wyntoñ J. Worcestre Bourgchier
T. B. Elieñ R. Sc̄i Joh̄is Stourton
W. Norwyceñ Dudeley
J. Lincolñ

(*In dorso.*) In palacio Westm̄ xxvij°. Maii anno &c. xxxij^do. Rex de avisamento sui Consilii, præsentibus dominis infrascriptis, mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere sub eodem sigillo litteras in forma prout infra petitur &c.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 84.

Letter from the King to the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, dated 29th May, and apparently in the 32nd Hen.VI. 1454.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and right welbeloved cousin, For as moche as oure enemyes with alle the meens that thay canne labour daily to doo alle the noissance thay can

ymagine to us and oure people and for that entent have nowe late sette a greet armee upon the see, as we doubte not to some greet purpoos, and byside that daily besy thaime to pulle from us oure towne of Calais, We therefore and for other causes concernyng the defense of this oure reaume outeward and the restefull and pollitiq, reule therof inwarde have by th'advis of oure Counsaill appointed and concluded the calling of a Greet Counsaill as wel of lordes as other to discretely provide for the matiers abovesaid, For so muche we wol and charge you that ye come and be w^t^ us at oure palois of Westmynstre where oure said Counsaill shalbe assembled the xxv. day of the nexth moneth there to yeve youre good avis in the said matiers and suche other as shalbe opened unto you at that tyme, and we wol in no wise ye leve this as ye desire the welfare of us our landes and subgitts. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye xxix. day of May.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Archus Eboř | | Meneveñ | |
| | | Cestreñ | |
| Wyntoñ | | Roffeñ | |
| Londoñ | | Assaveñ | |
| Bathoñ et Welleñ | | | |
| Lincolñ | | Dux Eboř protector &c. | |
| Elieñ | | Dux Norff | |
| Dunolm̃ | | Dux Exoñ | |
| Norwiceñ | | Dux Buck | |
| Bangoreñ | | | |
| Karlioł | | Richemond | |
| Chicestreñ | Epi | Pembroch | |
| Hereford | | Warrewic | |
| Sař | | Northumbř | |
| Wigorñ | | Devoñ | |
| Landaveñ | | Arundell | |

Saŕ
Oxoñ
Saloꝑ
Wigorñ
Wiltshiŕ
} Comites

Beaumont
Bourgchier
} Viceč

Prior Sči Joħis
Cromwell
Grey Ruthin
Grey Groby
Berkley
Grastoke
Ponyngs
Botreaux
Dacre
Beauchamp
Audeley
Zouch de Harringworth
Scroop de Bolton
Clynton
Lovell
Bergevenney
Clifford
Scales

Grey of Wiltoñ
Stourton
Fitzwaren
Boneville
Vescy
Roos
Sudeley
Hoo
Grey de Richmond
Saintamound
Duddeley
Say
Willughby
} Barones

Sir William Lucy
Thomas Tyrell
Thomas Stanley
Thomas Haringꝺon
} Knights

W. Eboŕ W. Wyntoñ W. Norwiceñ
J. Lincolñ Norff R. Salisbury
J. Worcestre Bourgchier R. Sči Joħis

Anno mense die et loco supradictis Rex per avisamentum sui Consilii voluit et mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui quod fieri faceret litteras sub eodem sigillo in forma prædicta, dominis subscribentibus ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 86.

Proceeding of the Council, 29th May, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

Henry by the grace of God King of England and of Fraunce and lord of Irland, to the Tresorer and Barons of oure eschequier greting, For asmoche as by auctorite of oure last Parlement bygonne at Redinge and ended at Westm̃ it was ordeyned and stablished by auctorite of the same that every lord sperituel and temporel the whiche came not to the said Parlement[1] from the xiiij. day of Feverer last passed unto the last day of the same moneth shoulde pay unto us a certain somme, as it is more at large expressed in the said acte, the whiche we have sent unto you by a mittimus undre oure grete seel w^t^ the names of suche as came not to oure said Parlement w^t^in the tyme specified in the saide acte, whereupon ye make processe out of oure said eschequer according to oure commaundement, and amonges othre ayenst oure right trusty and welbeloved the Lord Say for xl. li., but it is so as we have welle called to oure remembraunce that the said Lord Say was not soo absent but within the saide tyme was with us and with othre lordes of oure Parlement present in the same, as it is also proved bifore oure Counsaill, We wolle and charge you that ye surceesse of al maner of processe made or to be made ayenst the said Lord Say by vertue of the said acte and

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 248; and p. 181, *antea*.

of the said summe and every part therof discharge and acquite the said Lord Say his heirs and executours ayenst oure heirs and successours for evermore, the said acte or any othre to the contrary made or to be made not withstandyng. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxix. day of May the yere &c. xxxij.

| | |
|---|---|
| W. Ebor̃ | |
| W. Wyntoñ | R. Salisbury |
| W. Norwiceñ | J. Worcestre |
| J. Lincolñ | Bourgchier |
| Decanus Sancti Severini | R. Sc̃i Joh̃is. |

Prædictis die anno mens̃ et loco Rex per avisamentum sui Consilii mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui quod fieri faceret litteras sub eodem sigillo in forma prædicta, dominis se subscribentibus ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* No. 4606. art. 49.

Proceeding of the Council, 31st May, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

In the Sterred Chambre at Westm̃ the last day of May the yere &c. xxxij. it was ordeigned and avised by the lords of oure souverain lord's Counsail, that notwithstanding that in tyme passed the Chaunceller of the duchie of Lancastre of that part that is putte in feffement hadde in commaundement from oure said soverain lord not to receyve any letter for his warrant of any thing to be spedde by him under any seel saufe the signet of the Egle oonly, the prive seel shall from hensforth be sufficient warrant unto the said Chaunceller of the said part of the said duchie unto the time oure said souverain lord otherwise yeve him in commaundement, and that

he receive nor obey any other lettre for his warrant but the prive seel.

| | |
|---|---|
| W. Eboř | R. Salisbury |
| W. Wintoñ | J. Worcesteř |
| W. Norwiceñ | H. Bourgchier |
| J. Lincolñ | R. Sancti Joñis |
| C. privati sigilli | J. Duddeley |
| Decanus Sancti Severini | J. Say |

Exemplificatum fuit xxx^mo. die Maii anno xxxij^do.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* No. 4611. art. 87.

Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter. To this article the date of the 3rd June, 32 Hen. VI. 1454, is assigned; and although the authority for doing so does not appear, that date is presumed to be correct.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cosin, We understande to oure grete displesour the haynous ungodely and ungodly disposition and gouvernaunce that ye be of, right full unsittyng to youre estate and birthe youre selfe can remembre youre demeanyng w^tine oure cite of Yorke not long agoo, what presumption ye toke upon you there as it is said usurping other power than was yeven to you by us, what langage ye hadde there, what cries ye have doo made in sondry places, what people ye have assembled ayenst oure lawes and pees, in what wise ye rode w^t standards displeied full outrageously and indiscreetly, what sedicious letters ye have writen as wel to oure right trusty and welbeloved the Baron of Graystoke as the communes of oure shires of Lancastre and Chestř, how also ye have entreted oure welbeloved servant Gartier that came to you w^t oure letters the whiche it hadde be

your parte to have received w^t^ reverence rather than to have doo pulled thaim from the berer weyth in your consideration wheyere this sitteth to your estate and birth feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us or noo, not w^t^standing sinth ye be disposed in such wise we most provide to sette aparte youre wilfullnesse as we soo will doo w^t^ Godds grace and in such wise as it shalbe example to other. For somoche we wol and charge you upon the faith and ligeance that ye owe unto us that ye surceesse of youre said behavyng and attempte noo thing that may sowne or be to the breche of oure pees or lawes. And over that that ye come and be with us and oure Counsail at oure palois of Westm̃ the xxv. day of this moneth[1] there to answere to such things as shalbe declared unto you at your commyng.

To the Duc of Excestre.

[*Ibid.* art. 88. Letter from the King to Lord Egremont, and apparently also written on the 3rd June, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved, We mervaille greetly that ye having neiyer consideration ne regarde to the favour that we have shewed unto you, to the worship that we have sette you inne, nor to the faithe that ye owe unto us, wol or dar̃ presume to take upon as ye doo and feere not to disobeye us oure auctorite and lawes, demeanyng you ful strangely ayenst oure pees makyng assembles of oure people and doyng many other things longe to reherce right greetly to oure displesour. Wherefore we wol and charge you upon the

[1] It appears by the article in p. 185, *antea*, that a Great Council was to be held at Westminster on the 25th June.

feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us that ye surceese of youre said demeanyng and departe suche gaderings as ye have made and in nowise from hensforth by youre self or any of yours doo or suffre to be doo any thing that may sowne or be ayenst oure pees and lawes, and over that that ye come and be with us and oure Counsaile at oure paloys of Westm̃ the xxv. day of this moneth there to answere to suche things as shalbe declared unto you at your commyng.

To the Lord Egremond.

[*Ibid.* art. 89. Letter from the King to Richard Percy, apparently dated on the 3rd June, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, Sith it is soo that ye entende to suche governaunce and rule as ye be of the whiche is right straunge and unsitting, we must of reason gretley be displesed w^t^ you as we have cause, and so muche the more that youre unrestfull and unlawfull demeanyng is a full perilous ensample, namely to other of light disposition, For somoche we wol and charge you upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us that ye setting aside youre wilfullnesse surceesse of alle gaderings and assemblees and alle other thing that may sowne or be to the hurt of oure pees, and also that ye come and be with us and oure Counsaill at oure paloys of Westm̃ the xxv. day of this present moneth there to answere to suche things as shalbe declared unto you at your commyng.

To Richard Percy.

[*Ibid.* art. 91. Letter from the King to Sir Nicholas Longford, knight, and Thomas Pylkyngton, esq., 3rd June, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, Where as now late we wrote unto you oure oyere letters neverthelees we be enfourmed that ye straunged to receyve thaire . . . . . the berer therof straungely, wherof we merville, for soo moche and suche as it is said ye by you and suche other gadered unto you have committed divers riotts and do oyere things contrarie to oure pees, we wol and charge you that ye come and appere before us and oure Counsaill the xxv. of this present moneth there to answere to the premises and suche oyere things as shalbe declared unto you at youre commyng, charging you also upon the payne of m^l. li. that ye attempte noo thing ayens oure pees in the meane tyme by you nor noon of yours. Yeven at Westm the iij. day of Juyn.

To S^r Nicholas Longford knight.
To Thomas Pylkyngton squier.

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, Not w^tstandyng we wrote unto you late to have come to us and oure Counsaill yit ye did not soo for asmoche and sith as it is said ye &c. ut supra usq; ad finem.

To Walter Blount squier.

W. Norwicen
J. Lincoln

R. Salisbury
J. Duddeley.

Anno mense die et loco prædict Rex de avisamento Consilii sui præsentibus dominis suprascriptis mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere litteras sub eodem sigillo secundum tenores superius descript &c.

T Kent.

It is to be remembred that letters were writen of the tenoures abovesaid both with the stiles and withoute stiles, and the v. day of Juyn in the Sterre Chambre, the said letters brought thider, my Lord Chanceller toke to be sente forth the letters withoute stiles and ye oyer letters were not delivered.

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[Additional MS. 4610. art. 40. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Abbot of Hulme, dated 5th June, and apparently in the 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

Right dere in God, For as moche as we be enfourmed that the Lord Egremond accompaigned of other of like disposition as he is, not remembring the state and worship that we have sette him inne, the feith trouth and obeissance that he oweth unto us, neither the observance ne paine of oure lawes ordeigned ayenst the brekers therof, hath now late made and dayly maketh greet assembles of oure lige people in the contre aboute you and other places there, and over that of his owne presumpsion, w'oute any autoritee or power from us maketh divers and strange proclamations to stirre oure trewe subgittes into rebellion and breking of oure lawes and pees, by the wiche ful greet inconvenience were like to ensewe, that God defende, if it so sholde be suffred, We therfore by thees oure letters wol and straitely charge you, that in nowise by you ne noon of youre servants or tenants or other that in any wise belong unto you ye yeve or do or suffre to be yeve or do any favour assistence confort or help unto the said Lord Egremond nor noon of his or of his opinion what ever thai be, but straitely charge the saide youre servants

and tenants to absteigne thaim therfro, doing alle the diligence that belongeth unto you for the ceesing and setting downe of the said assemblees and misgouvernance, and that ye leve not this upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm the v. day of Juyn.

To the Abbot of Hulme.

[*Ibid.* art. 41.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, Forasmoche as we be informed that the Lord Egremond accompaigned of other of like disposition as he is, not remembring the tate and worship that we have sette him inne, the feith &c. it supra usq; ibi oure lige people tunc sic in oure countee of Westmerland wherof ye by inheritance be sherrief nd in other places in contre aboute you, and over that c. ut supra usq; ibi be suffred tunc sic, Wherfore we wol nd straitly charge you that ye putte you in suche devoir nd diligence that by you noon of yours nor noon of oure subgitts of the saide contre as ferre as it shal mowe ye in youre power any favour assistance confort or help e yeven unto the said Lord Egremond nor noon of his r of his opinion what soever thai be; but by alle wayes ossible to you do your labour and besinesse for the eesing and settinge downe of the said misgovernance nd assembles, and that unto oure right trusty and ight entierly welbeloved cousin the Duc of York protectour and defensour of this oure reaume whom by h'avis of our Counsail we have ordeigned to adresse im thider as it shal bethought expedient for w^t^standing nd breking of the said assemblees, and ye w^t^ alle the ower that ye canne make yeve herein and in al other hinges that shalbe thought to him wol serve to the ame, assistence help and aïde, as we doubte not ye wol

according to the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us when ye shalbe bi him required, and this as oure singuler trust is on you and as ye tendre the welfare of us and of alle this oure lande. Yeven &c. ut supra.

To the Lord Clyfford.

[*Ibid.* No. 4611. art. 112. a modern *Transcript.*
Letter from the King to Walter Duredant of Buckinghamshire, dated 5th June, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

WELBELOVED, For certaine grete causes and considerations suche as moeve us and oure Counsail specially, we wol by th'avis of the same oure Counsail and straitly charge you that alle other thinges lefte and excusations ceesing ye be before us and oure said Counsail atte oure paloys of Westm̃ the morwe next after the feste of Saint John Baptiste next commyng[1] to answere unto suche matiers as shalbe shewed unto you at youre comyng, and that ye faille not upon paine of cc. li. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the v. day of Juyn.

To oure welbeloved Waltier Duredent of the countee of Bukingham.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii.

Langport.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. XIV. f. 520. *contemporary* MS.
Letter from the King to the Mayor and Aldermen and inhabitants of York and Hull, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the Kyng.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, We grete you hertely well, latyng you wite we have right well understande

[1] 25th June.

by certaine writinges of our right trusty and right entierly welbeloved cousin the Duc of York protectoure and defensoure of this oure reaume, the straunge and unsittyng demeanyng of the Duc of Excestre the Lord Egremond and Richard Percy amonge you nowe late w^thin our citee of York, the which we take to our ful grete displesire as we muste nedes doo, and somoche the more that thay p̄sumptuously toke upon theyme oure auctoritee and powaire to coloure therwith ferre soughte ymaginacons, for it was nevir oure entente or wille that thay or any of thaime sholde on oure behalf say or utt̄ unto you suche thinge as they dide, Notwithstandyng thaire said ungodely behavyng hath putte into experience and proff your faithe and trouthe towardes us, the tendernesse good zele and love that ye bere unto the welfar of us and oure peple and to the restefull reule of this oure lande, with this also youre wyse discrete sadde and manly beryng oute of your saide trouthe at this tyme in withstandyng and puttyng aside the wylfulnesse of the said Duc and other shalbe to you a perpetuell laude and commendacon a noble meroure and a gentill example to all oure trewe subgitte, and for oure part we wol ye understande we be aswell contente and plesed w^t your said sadnesse and manhode as we can be and right joyfull that we fynde you soo feithfull subgitte unto us, thankyng you with all our herte of yo^r said behavyng as we have cause to doo, and also to shewe you favour in suche thinge as ye shal herafter sue unto us fore, willing and desiring you that ye contynue yo^r said godewilles and feithe at all tymes hereaft̄ towardes us, as we doubte not ye woll, Over this we can you right gode thanke that ye w^t all reverence and worship̄ full connyngly and joyfully receyved at his comyng our said cousin the Duc of York protectour

and defensoure of this ouꝛ lande, wherin ye have doo unto us right grete pleasaunce and ful agreable ſvice for the which also we shal have you in espial remembraunce. Yeven &c.

To oꝛ right trusty and welbeloved the Mayre aldremen [shirreffꝭ] and thinhitantꝭ of oꝛ cite of York.

Item semble mutatꝭ mutandꝭ to the Maire aldremen and inhitantꝭ of oꝛ towne of Hull.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 75. a modern *Transcript.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 5th July, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

To the Kyng oure souverain lord and to his full noble and solēne Conseil.

Shewith and declareth to youre hieghnesse Piers de Merlanes and his feliship youre trewe legemen of Gascoignhe how by cause of the perdiction of your citee of Burdeux and of youre countree aboute, whiche of olde tyme has been ever youre trewe enheritaunce and obeissance to youre corone, thay ben comen into this realme as well to proffre thair service to youre said hieghnesse as to mekely by seke youre full graciouse consideration to be had of the service thay did to your said hiegnesse or th'Erle of Shrosbury and his feliship entred into youre said citee, and for the understanding and menes yat thay knowe howe your saide citee might be sonest reduced to youre said obeissance they ben all redy at what tyme youre ordinance and provision shall procede to the wynnyng agayn therof to do thair devoir, youre said graciouse consideration had of thair service yat is passed and yat is to come and how thair enprinse by the grace of God shal be profitable and expedient

to youre conquest in presence of suche persones as understand the maner therof when it shal like youre hieghnesse thay ben redy to declare.

Habita consideratione ad servitia et voluntatem superius ostensa domini de Consilio volunt quod đcus Petrus habeat per viam regardi hac vice t̃m x. l̃i.

W. Ebor̃
W. Wyntoñ R. Salisbury
J. Lincolñ R. Sc̃i Joh̃is
W. Norwiceñ J. Duddeley
Decanus Sancti Severini John Say.

Emanarunt litteræ de x. l̃i. hoc quinto die Julii anno ꝯc. xxxij^do^.

(*In dorso.*) Dict̃ die et loco prædict̃ Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras conficere sub eodem sigillo de x. l̃i. ut supra.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 92. Petition to the King, with the Answer, 10th July, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

To the King our soverain lord.

Mekely besechith your highnesse Rauf Cromwell lord Cromwell that where oon Robert Colynson preest of his grete untrouth cursed malice and evill disposition without cause or matier of cause late made grevous compleintz of your said besecher to you soverain lord fals and untrue disclaunders ⸝ of the which your seid besecher afore you and the full wise and discrete lordes of your Counsaill is declared clearly and thereof quite and discharged and soe by your highnesse and your said Counsaill accept and taken ⸝ as hit appereth by an act of record being afore you by you and your said Counsaill thereof

made ; And it is soe nowe most gracious soveraine lord that the seid Robert Colynson is in your prison in your marchalles warde of your benche.

Wherefore plese hit your noble grace ; the premisses tendirly considered ; to gif in commaundment by your lettres of privy seel to your justices of your seid benche that they doe make the said Robert Colynson surely to be kept in prison unto the time he have made gree and satisfyed your said suppliaunt of the damages that he hath suffered by the reason of the said disclaund^r and unto the tyme the said Robert have made fyne and raunsome to you soveraine lord for the said offence accordyng to the statute in such case ordeyned and provided ; and you said besecher shall pray Almighty God for your noble state.

W. Eboz.
W. Carlyll W. Norwicen R. Yorк T. Bathon
Georgius Abb Sci Augi Cantuar J. Bangoren
R. Salisbury J. Clynton. R. Sči Joнis

Rex de avisamento Concilii apud Westm x°. Julii anno regni sui xxxij°. concessit præsentem billam et mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui desuper fieri facere literas prout infra desideratur ; præsentibus dnis se ad infra scribentibus.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 93. Copy of the indenture between the King and the Duke of York, on the 17th July, 32 Hen.VI. 1454, as Captain of Calais, signed by the Council. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 351, 359. Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 254 *et seq.*]

This endenture made betwix the King our souverain lord on that oon part and his right trusty and right

entierly welbeloved cousin Richard duc of York on that other part witnesseth that the said Duc is withholden towards and with our said souverain lord the King for and during the terme of vij. yeres next following cappitain of his towne and castell of Caleis and of the towre of Rysbank and his lieutenant in the marches there, with alle the rights honeurs profittes emoluments prerogatives and as ample powair as any capitaine of the said towne hath had herebefore, and the said Duc shall have during the said tyme abiding upon the saufgard tuition and defense of the said towne of Caleis xxx^ti. men of armes on horsback, himself and iij. knights comprised in the same, and xxx^ti. archers on horsback and cc. men of armes on foote and cc. archers on foote well and sufficiently arraide for the werre over the retenue of the Tresorer of Caleis which shall be entending and obeying to the commaundementes of the said Duc and his commis in alle thinges touching the suertee and saufgard of the said towne. And the said Duc shall take. for himself vj^s. viij^d. for everich of the said knights ij^s. for everich of the said men of armes on horsback xij^d. for everich of the said other men of armes on foote and everich of the said archers on horsback viij^d. and for everich of the said archers on fote vj^d. on the day for thaire wages and soulde, and over this for himself an c. marc̃ everiche quartier of reward especiall, and for the said knights and the forsaid other men of armes on horsbak reward and half during the tyme and terme abovesaid, of the w^ch wages and rewardes the said Duc shalbe payed by the handes of the Tresorer of Caleis for the time beyng at the begynnyng of every quarter during the said tyme as well of the money commyng of the revenues apperteyning to the King our said souverain lord in the said towne of Caleis or in the marches there aboute as other wise, of the which paiement

the said Duc shall receive for him and his said retenue the iij$^{de}$. peny in vitailles convenient at suche price as they be worthe in the said towne and marches att the tyme of deliverance of hem ; And yf the said Tresorer may not parfourme the said iij$^{de}$. peny in vitailles he shall parfourme to the said Duc in money that that shall lakke thereof ; Also there shall be dwelling in the said towne for the suertee saufgard and tuition of the same at the wages of the King our said souverain lord to be paied by the hands of the said Tresorer which shall be underneth the gouvernance of the said Duc xl. arblaistiers xx. carpentiers and xv. maceons over the artillers and pencioners that be att this tyme in the said towne ; Also the King our said souverain lord shall fournisshe or make be fournisshed and advitaille the said toune of vitailles and of almannere habilamentes of werre and artilliers with peple therto convenient and necessarie for the saufgard tuition and deffense of the said towne ; And if it so happen that the werre begynne during the terme abovesaid the King oure said souverain lord shall fournisshe and deliver to the said Duc for to resiste and encountre the Kinges enemies for the seuertee and saufgard of the said towne within vj. wekes after that by the said Duc or his commis our said souverain lord the King or his Counsail shall have warnyng and knowlache thereof an c. and xl. men of armes on horsbak ; of the which shall be himself and ix. knightes and c. and l. archers on horsbak an c. men of armes on fote an ciiij$^{xx}$. and iiij. archers on fote and iiij. skewrers on horsbak over the retenue of the said Tresorer of Caleis and arblaisters carpentiers maceons artillers officers and pensioners abovesaid ; the which alle shalbe under the gouvernaunce and charge of the said Duc to be paide and content in money of our said souverain lord the King by the handes of the said Tre-

sorer of Caleis after suche wages rewardes and pensions as above is made mention of, as well for the said Duck as the peple of his said charge and retenue and everich of the said skewrers xviij$^{d}$. every day. Also yf th' ennimies and adversaries ley siege before the said towne of Caleis, the King our said souverain lord for the resistence therof unto the tyme of commyng of the greet rescous shall sende thider a competent nombre of men of armes and archers within a moneth after that he or his Counsail shal have warnyng or knowelach therof fro the said Duc or his commys or deputees there, the which nombre shal be over th' ordinarie charge of the said towne iiij$^{ml}$. men or v$^{ml}$. men, the said ordinarie nombre therin comprised. And in caas that the said towne and castell be not rescowed within two moneths after suche warnyng and in defaulte thereof any inconvenient afterward happe to falle to the said towne or castell, that God defende, the said Duc puttyng him in his devoire shalbe therof and his heires clerely discharged and quited ayenst oure said souverain lord the King and his heires for evermore. And the said Duc shall mowe yf it like him converte the said men of armes and archers on horsbak unto men of armes and archers on fote, so that their wages excede not the somme of the wages and rewardes of the said men on horsbak, of the whiche men on horsbak and archers on fote above specified the said Duc shall make mustres vewes and revewes quarterly before the Tresorer and Countrollour of the said towne of Caleis or other such as shal be deputed therto by our said souverain lord the King as ofte as he shall yereto be duely warned and required. And the said Duc shall have sufficiant shipping and reshipping for himself and thoo that shalbe under him to goo and come to the said towne of Caleis atte ye costes of the King oure said souverain lord. Also the said

Duc shall deliver or make be delivered by his deputees or commys fro tyme to tyme the names and surnames of alle the people of his retenue unto the Tresourer and Countrollour of Caleis for the tyme beyng or to thaire deputees duly to make countrollement as it apperteyneth, to that entent that the said Tresourer or Countrollour shall mowe at their commyng departing and retourning to and from the said towne of Caleis be counted and seen when they come departe and retourne from tyme to tyme and thair vacacion and commyng ayeñ put in writing with the default yf any be. Also the said Duc shall mowe ordeyne and stablish almanner officers that shall be thought unto him leeffull and covenable for the weel and saulfgard of the said towne and therto the said Duc shal have of oure said souverain lord the King ample commission and power with alle other letters and warrantes appartenent and requisite to alle that that is conteigned in this present endenture. And the said Duc shal mowe yeve and graunte under his seel or signet saufe conducts seuretees and other letters of grace to the Kinges adversaries to come to Calais and the marches therof abide and departe as wel by lande on yat partie of the see as by and upon the see for the vitaillyng of the said towne and for deliveraunce of prisoners if any happe to be taken by him or by any of his retenue during the said tyme. Also the said Duc shal mowe appatise in tyme of werre yf the caas require it alle $y^{e}$ ꝑsshes disobeissant and rebelles unto the King oure said souverain lord and therfore yeve saufgardes and other letters under his seal requisite in that behalf, the which appatise shalbe converted and emploied to the paiement of thoo yat be in soulde under him in the said towne and places. Also the said Duc shall have continually abiding upon the saufgarde of the said

castell of Calais during the tyme abovesaid a man of armes on horsbak his lieutennant of the said castell and xxx. men of armes on fote and xx. archers on fote hable and sufficient for the werre, taking for his said lieutennant ij$^{s}$. on the day, for everiche of the said men of armes on fote viij$^{d}$. on the day, and for everiche of the said archers vj$^{d}$. on the day during the terme aforesaid, and for himself or for his said lieutennant rewarde especial an c$^{s}$. everiche quartier, of the whiche wages and rewardes the said Duc shal be paide for him and his said retenue in manner and fourme as above by the handes of the Tresorer of Caleis for the tyme beyng, and there shall no persone nor personnes of what estate they be of entre within the said castell during the said tyme but the King oure said souverain lord w$^{t}$outen licence of the said Duc or his said lieutennant there. And over this the forsaid Duc shal have continuelly abiding upon the seure and saufgarde of the forsaid toure of Risbank a man of armes his lieutennant and anoyer man of armes the wages of werre and rewardes and half accustumed and xvj. men of armes or arbalastiers, everiche of thaim takyng viij$^{d}$. on the day for thaire wages and ij$^{d}$. on the day of rewarde, to be taken in mannere and fourme as above by the handes of the Tresourier of Caleis for the tyme beyng. Also the said towre shal be stuffed sufficiently of artillarie gunnes and gunne pouder at the costages of the King oure said souverain lord. And over this oure said souverain lord the King shal have as well the thridde part of wynnynges of werre of the said Duc as the thridde of thriddes wherof his retenue of the said places shal answere unto him of thair wynnynges of werre be they prisonners preys or other wynnynges of werre and all droitz of werre accustumed, of the which thriddes and

thridde of thriddes and droitz the said Duc by his seurance or by the seurance of his deputee or deputees executor or executours of his testament shal answere truly unto the King oure said souverain lord in his eschequier at Caleis. And the said Duc shal have almanner prisonners yat shalbe taken by him or any of his said retenue during the said tyme excepte Kinges and sonnes of Kinges Counstable of France and Lieutennant General to the Frensshe King, the whiche shalbe and abide prisonners unto the King oure said souverain lord and for the which he shal make resonnable aggrement unto the said Duc or hem y$^{t}$ shal fortune any suche to take. Also the said Duc hath undertaken seurly and saufly to kepe or make to be kepte to his powars the said towne castell and toure to the worship and proffite of oure said souverain lord the King withouten making deliverance of any of hem to any persone of the worlde sauf oonly unto the King his heires Kinges of Englande or by certaine commaundement by thair letters under thair greet seel. And over this oure said souverain lord the King wol and graunteth yat yf the said Duc be not paide and content for him and his said retenue in manner and fourme as before is reherced that thanne upon warnyng of an half yere thereupon to be made by the said Duc unto the King oure said souverain lord or unto his Counsaill the forsaid Duc be at his fredome fully to discharge him yf he wol of the kepyng and saufgarde of the said towne castell and towre. this present endenture not withstanding, provide alle way that the said Duc be not charged of keping of the said towne castell and towre unto the tyme they be to him or to his deputees paisibly delivered at his fredome and libertees. this

present endenture not withstanding. In witness &c. Yeven &c.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| W. Eboř | H. Bukingh$^{a}$m | R. Salisbury |
| W. Wyntoñ | J. Worcestre | Bourgchier |
| T. Elieñ | Decanus Sči Sever . . | R. Sči Joħis |
| W. Norwiceñ | J. Duddeley. | |

xvij°. die Julii anno &c. xxxij$^{do}$. Rex de avisamento Consilii sui voluit quod fierent indentuř secundū formam suprascripť, et mandavit Custoď privati sigilli sui quod unam partem ipsarum indentuř penes carissimum consanguineum suum Ducem Eborum remansuř sub eoď privato sigillo sigillari deberet, ďnis se subscribenť ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 101. Minute of the Council, 18th July, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

Decimo octavo die Julii anno &c. xxxij. in Camera Magni Consilii apud Westm̃ Dominus Dux Eboř protector et defensor Angliæ exhibuit quandam cedulam sub tenore qui sequitur. For as muche as it is moeved amonge you the lordes beyng present at this tyme and put in question whedre the Duc of Somerset committed to ward[1] for suspecion of treson by the lordes of the Kinges Counsail at that tyme beyng in grete nombre, should be enlargised undre baill or noo, I for my part cause and exhorte you to call to remembrance that

[1] The Duke of Somerset and Lord Cobham were in prison as early as the 28th February in this year. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 248. The Duke was not released until the 5th February, 33 Hen.VI. 1455, when he was admitted to bail, having, he said, been one year and upwards of ten weeks in confinement. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 361, 362.

amongst othre articles for the whiche this Greet Counsaill was called and assembled at this tyme it is specified that a reule shuld be sette in the mater touching the said Duc of Somerset according to lawe and reason, therfore me semeth it is full fitting and according to reson that in th'enlarging in baille of the said Duc if he shold so be th'avis of the juges *of* this lande were asked and hadde, to th'entent that the said enlarging in baille wer according to law and reson as it is conteigned in the said articles. And moreover it is right fitting covenable and necessarie for alle oure acquitaill and in eschewing of noyse that myght rynne upon us that th'avis of mo lords than be here at this tyme were hadd, considering the pois and gretnesse of this mater. And I in no wise will yeve myne assent to the said enlargement w^t^out th'avis of the said juges, knowlech and assent also of mo lordes y^t^ nowe be absent, the which myn avis exortation and declaration I desire to be enacted in this Counsail to remayne of record for myn acquitaill.

Cujus quidem cedulæ tenorem petiit et requisivit præfatus dominus Dux quod inactitari deberet et remanere de recordo inter cætera acta Consilii possetq; idem dominus Dux superinde litteras exemplificationum sub magno et privato sigillis habere in forma debita. Cui quidem petitioni et requisitioni domini dederunt consensum volentes quod taliter inactitari deberet fierentq; litteræ ut petitur, præsent Dominis Archiepiscopo Eboī Episcopis Londoñ Wintoñ Elieñ Roffeñ Bathoñ Karliol Wigorñ Norwic Assaph et Bangoreñ Custode privati sigilli Abbat Sancti Augustini Cant Duce Buckingham Comit Sar Cancell Northumbr Wigorñ Thes Vicecomit Beaumont et Bourchier Prior Sancti Johannis Ferrers de Groby Ruddemounde Grey Clynton &c.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 102. This article was annexed to the preceding Minute of the Council.]

HENRY by the grace &c. to our Chaunceller greting. For asmuche as we sende unto you enclosed here w^in the teneur of a certayn acte of oure Counsail amonges thre remembrances of ye same our Counsail remaynyng in y^e office of our prive seel. We wolle and charge you that upon ye same acte ye do make our letters of exemplication undre oure grete seel in due fourme. Yeven &c. at Westm the xviij. day of Juill the yere &c. xxxij.

Dictis die anno *et* loco Rex de avisamento Consilii sui voluit et mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras fieri facere sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem suprascriptum.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art 94. Petition to the King, with the Answer, 20th July, 32 Hen.VI. 1454.]

To the King our soverain lord.

BESE mekely your humble and true lige man William Neville Lord Faucomberge, that where Edmond Arblaster was prisoner and in the handes of one Blauncheford and putte to grete fynaunce, and for the payment thereof long continued in prison, and for the deliverance of the said Edmund your said besecher was bound and become plegge to the said Blauncheford for the said fynaunce to be paied or to entre his body ayen to the said Blaunchford his heires or his execut^rs, whereupon the said Edmund was delivered atte his large. And it is soe nowe that the said Edm^d hath not paid the said fynaunce, and your said besecher is summoned to paie the foresaid fynaunce or to entre the body of the seid Edm^d

or els to be dishonored. Wherefore like it youre benigne grace to yeve licence to your seid besecher that he may deliver the said Edmund to the said Blauncheford his heires or his execut^rs for his discharge and acquitail in this behalfe soe that your seid besecher be not dishonoured, and he shall pray God for your noble and high astate.

T. Elieñ R. York H. Bukingh^am R. Salisbury
W. Wyntoñ
Beaumont Bourgchier

xx^o. die Julii anno &c. xxxij^o, apud Westm̃ in Camera Magni Concilij Rex de avisamento Concilii sui concessit istam supplicationem mandavitque Custodi privati sigilli sui fieri facere literas sub . . . . . sigillo Domino Cancellar̃ Angl̃ dirigend̃ in debita forma, d̃nis se subscribent̃ ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 95 and 96. Proceeding of the Council, 23rd July, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

The xxiij. day of Juill the yere &c. xxxij. at Westm̃ the King by th'avis of his Counsail wold and graunted to his right trusty and right entierly welbeloved cousin the Duc̃ of York protectour and defensour of England, that he shold have power and auctorite to yeve the Kings liverey of colers to iiij^xx. gentillmen after his discretion, they and everich of thaim to be sworn to be afeed w^tout no man but w^t the King w^toute his speciall licence, and that here upon letters under the prive seel and greet seel be made in due fourme.

Item ye King wol and graunted as above y^t a warrant be made in due fourme to ye Steward Treś and Countrollour ye Cofrerer ye Controllour Chief Clerc and ye

Avener, yaim all iiij. or iij. of theim to put in execution yappointements made and ordeined for ye Kings stable, as wele on disposing of ye horses as persones entending upon the said stable, accordyng to a cedule herto annexed.

T. Londoñ
W. Wyntoñ
Ł. Elieñ
Ł. Bathoñ
R. Salisbury
H. Bourchier
R. Sc̃i Joħis

Decanus Sancti Severini.

[The following was annexed to the preceding article.]

TH'APPOINTEMENT made by the King by thavis of his Counsaill for th'office of the averie and for his stable.

First, where as the King hadde of his owne propre goods the xxiij. day of Juill the xxxij. yere of his regne the horses charriottes and somers sadells aftir following, that is to say.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Palfreys | vj | Sume. |
| Coursers | v | |
| Somers of ye chambre | x | |
| Somers of office | xj | |
| In the karre | v | |
| In v. charriotts | xxxiij | |

Of the whiche the King by th'avis of his Counsail above said appointeth for his estate nowe in his siknesse beyng, which God hastely releve and amende, the horses after following, that is to say

| | |
|---|---|
| For his sadill palfreys | ij |
| For his swerde | j |
| For his sadill coursers | iij |
| For his males | ij |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For his botelles | j | Sume xxiiij. |
| For his gardevians | j | |
| For his stole | j | |
| For his karre | vj | |
| For his chariott | vij | |

John Kinge the keping of ij. palfreys
John Prince the keping of j. palfrey and j. courser
Richard Wykes the kepyng of ij. coursers
Thomas Hille the keping of ij. male horses
John Whatnale the keping of j. bótil-hors
Thomas Bokthorp ye keping of j. hors for ye gardevians
Antoñ Burton y^e keping of j. hors for ye stole
John Flyntarde and his grome for the karre
John Rither and his grome for the chariott

} Sum. xj.

Also furyere moré the King by th'avis abovesaid, appointeth parcell of ye remenant of alle the said horses chariotts somer sadelles and oyer stuffe to certain lordes after following, to have and occupie theim to here owne propre use unto suche tyme as the caas shal require to yelde ayen as goode or better to the Kinges use and profite, that is to say

| | |
|---|---|
| To the Byshop of Ely elect to Archebishop of Canterbury | ij. somers w^t y^e sadelles and apparaill |
| To the Erle of Salisbury now Chauncellour of England | ij. somers w^t ye sadelle and apparrail |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| To the Bishop of Carliff nowe beyng | ij. somers with the apparaill | Sume xxxij. |
| To the same Bishop j. chariott and | vi. horses wt alle the apparaill | |
| To the Viscount Bourgchier | j. somer with the apparaill | |
| To the same Viscount Bourgchier j. chariot t | vij. horses with the apparaill | |
| To the Lord Faucomberge | iij. somers wt ye apparaill | |
| To the same Lord Faucomberge j. chariot and | horses with the apparaill | |
| To the Abbot of Waltham that now is for a stallon | j. palfrey to restore ye King a coursr for him | |

Afore the whiche deliverance the King by th'avis abovesaid appointed iiij. coorsers wt other associate unto theim to value ye said horses and herneys by their othes and discretions, whiche they coude nat ne might take upon hem by cause ye horses were oute of feding and not in good plight but soo as ye caas thaime required they valued every of ye said chariotts wt the apparaill to the somme of x. li., and every somer wt the sadill and apparrell to the somme of xlvj. s. viij. d.

And over this the King by th'avis abovesaid appointed the residue of the said horses chariotts and harneys in eschewyng of expenses of theim, considering here age and nonsufficiente to serve the King or any other man of estate, to be delivered as after folowe; that is to saye

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| To Maistre Henry Seyver thanne the Kinges awmoner j. chariott and | vij. horses with apparaill | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| To the same Maistre Henry ij. karre horses v. somers and j. hak in all | viij. horses | Sume xv. |

The King by th'avis abovesaide appointeth and also admitteth divers officers for the office of the averie forsaide and for concerning and keping of the said office and stable as after folowe

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Pury avener | ij. hors and j. gars | Sume ix. |
| William Fisshelake chief clerc | j. hors and j. gars | |
| John Gyles undir clerc | j. hors | |
| William Phelip sergeant ferrour | | |
| Robert Pilchard yoman ferrour | j. hors | |
| Thomas Hampton yoman of ye hors | j. hors | |
| Richard Walgrave and John Glover yomen purveours | ij. hors | |
| Thomas Wente yoman garnettr | j. hors | |

And over this the King by th'avis abovesaid appointeth stablissheth, and ordeigneth that no levereys of hey ne provendre be made ne take but oonly for horses before appointed.

Item that noo levereys be made of haye ne litter but by oon of the yomen purviours, and to such persones as take wages for kepyng of the said horses or oon of his felawes of ye same office in his absence.

Item that there be noo children nor deputees in the said stable other thanne stande at the Kinges wages to

kepe the said hors to water hem or shoye hem but oonly he or they that have the charge of hem and the wages for hem or oon of his felawes in his absence.

Item that the Yoman of the horses for the tyme beyng dayly oversee the governaunce kepyng and watering of eche of the said horses aftir the maner and fourme as it was used in the tyme of the King of noble memorie King Henry the v$^{th}$.

Item that noon of the said officers and kepers aforsaid departe fro court withoute licence of the Avener for the tyme beyng, and in his absence of the Chief clerc and Yoman of the hors.

Item that alle the persones officers and kepers aforesaid be sworn that they and eche of theym duly kepe and observe theire offices aftir the fourme and effect as it is above rehersed upon payne of forfaitur of thaire offices, and that the Avener for the tyme beyng have full power to sette oyer sufficient in hire stede and places, and that the Steward Tresourer and Countrollour the Cofferer the Countrollour Chief Clerc and the Avener eithre iiij. or iij. of hem put alle this appointements in dewe execution w$^{t}$in a moneth after the sight hereof upon the payne that eche of theim forfeite to the King an c.li. and that the Avenere for the tyme beyng fro that tyme forth soo kepe it in good reule to his power upon the peyne of an c. li.

[*Ibid.* art. 97. Letter addressed to the Spiritual and Temporal Peers, dated 24th July, 32 Hen. VI. 1454, summoning them to attend a Great Council on the 21st October following.]

By the King.

Reverent Fadre in God, Sith it is soo that for certaine grete causes and considerations as and oure Coun-

sail moevyng we have avised and ordeyned oure Greet Counsail to assemble ayen at oure palois of Westmynstre the xxj. day of Octobr̃ next commyng, there to procede to good conclusion with the grace of God in suche matiers as we called nowe late oure saide Grete Counsaile fore, the whiche be of right grete charge and poys sitting us full negh to hert, We wol and charge you that at the saide xxj. day of Octobr̃ ye come and be with us and other the lords of oure saide Grete Counsail at oure saide palois of Westm̃, there to yeve youre good avise in the saide matiers and such other as shalbe opened unto you at that tyme, And we wol ye leve not this as ye desire the wel of us and oure subgetts. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxij.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Archus Eborr̃ | | Richemond̃ | |
| | | Pembroch | |
| Roffen̄ | | Warewik | |
| Lincoln̄ | | Northumbr̃ | |
| Dunolm̃ | | Devon̄ | *Comites* |
| Norwic̃ | | Arundel | |
| Bangore | | Exon̄ | |
| Carliolei | | Wiltshir̃ | |
| Cicestre | Epi | | |
| Herefor | | Cromwell | |
| Sar̃ | | Gray Ruthyn̄ | |
| Wigorn̄ | | Gray Groby | |
| Landav( | | Gray Wiltoñ | |
| Cestren̄ | | Dacre | |
| Assaven̄ | | Beauchamp̃ | |
| | | Scroop de Boltoñ | |
| Norff | Duces | Bergeveney | Baron̄ |
| Buck | | Scales | |

Stourtoñ
Fitzwareñ
Faucomberge
Boneville
Vescy
Seudeley
Gray Richmond
Saintamand

Anno die mense et loco prædict Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigil sui litteras facere sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem suprascript.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 98. Letters written by order of the Council, on the 24th July, 32 Hen. VI. 1454, to the Bishop of St. David's, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and several other lords.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved, It may not be oute of your remembraunce that we not longe agoo willed and charged you to have be w^t us at oure paleys of Westmynstre ye xxv. day of Juyñ last passed where and at which tyme we had ordeyned and appointed a Greet Counsail to be holden, the which not w^tstanding ye come not, yevyng ful straunge example to other of disobeissaunce, And sith it is so that we have advised and ordeyned that oure said Greet Counsaill shall eftsones assemble at oure said paleys of Westm̃ ye xxj. day of Octobre next cōmyng, We wol and charge that ye in no wise faille to be there at that tyme w^t other . . . . . of oure said Counsaill to yeve your advise in such matiers as touch ye weel of us and oure subgitts and sitteth us right negh to hert, latyng you wite yf ye

come not it shal give us cause to entrete you in suche wise as shalbe thought unto us by th'avis of oure saide Counsaill according to youre disobeissaunce. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxij.

To the Bysshop of Saint David
To the Erle of Shrovesbury
To the Lorde of Berkley
To the Baron of Greystoke
To the Lord Ponyngs
To the Lord Botreaux
To the Lord Audeley
To the Lorde Zouch de Haringtoñ
To the Lord Lovell
To the Lorde Clyfford
To the Lord Roos
To the Lord Hoo of Hastings
To the Lorde Willughby.

Anno loco die et mense prædict̃ Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras facere sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem suprascriptum.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 99. Minute of the Council, 24th July, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

xxiiij. day of Juill the yere &c. xxxij. the King by y'advis of his Counsail wold y^t^ ye Chanceller of England mak a writte to ye Duc of York to bring . . . . . [1] to the castel of Pountfrete and the Chanceller of ye duche of Lancastr̃ to do make a

[1] The Duke of Exeter.

write to ye Cunstable of ye said castel to receyve ye said Duc.

T. Kent.

W. Wyntoñ Bourgchier. R. Sc̃i Joh̃is
Γ. Elieñ
Cust̃ privati sigilli
Decanus Sc̃i Severiñ

[*Ibid.*]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, For certain causes and considerations us movinge, we have ordeigned our right trusty and right welbeloved cousin the Duc of Excestre to be in ward in our castelle of Pountfraicte and among others ordeigned you to await upon oure said cousin and to entende upon the saufgard of him, therfor we wol and charge you that ye adresse you to our said castell to awaite and entende upon oure said cousin in maner abovesaid, and we wol in no wise ye leve this as oure special truste is ye wolle not. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xxiiij. day of Juill the yere &c. xxxij.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii sui.

T. Kent.

To Bryan Stapilton
To John Melton
To Thomas Rampston
} knights.

[*Ibid.* art. 100. Letter from the King, signed by the Council, to the Duke of Norfolk, dated the 24th or 28th July, 32 Hen. VI. 1454.]

By the King.

Right trusty and right welbeloved cousin we grete you wel, And for as moche as ye have opened certaigñ

maters ayenst oure right trusty and right welbeloved cousin the Duc of Somerset, affermyng that ye wolle justifie and lawfully preve the said maters so proposed by yow, We by th'avis of oure Counsail assaigne unto you the xxviij. day of Octobre next commyng peremptorily, afore the whiche we wolle ye shewe and make al suche preves as ye have to justifie the said maters so by you purposed, lating you wete we shal at that day procede in the said matters according to law and reason and as it shal be thought to us and our said Counsail expedient and behovefull, willing and chargeing you that ye as wel in the mean tyme as at suche tyme as ye shal come to be afore us and oure said Counsail ye so demeane you that oure pees be in no wise troubled by you or any of yours. Yeven undre oure prive seel at Westm̃ the xxviij. day of Juiłł the yere &c. xxxij.

Anno die loco et mense supradictis Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras conficere in forma suprascripta.

T. Kent.

To our right trusty and right welbeloved cousin the Duc of Norff.

H. Bourgchier
W. Wynton R. Salisbury R. Sc̃i Joh̃is
T. Elien J. Duddeley
Grey.

(*In dorso.*) Lr̃æ traditæ fuerunt Subthesauř xxiiij. die Julii, anno suprascripto.

## ACTA DE ANNO TRICESIMO TERCIO.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 170. *Original.*

Ordinances for the regulations of the King's household, 13th November, 33 Hen. VI. 1454. These Ordinances were incorrectly printed, together with other articles relating to the royal household, by the Society of Antiquaries, in the year 1790, 4to.]

ORDENANCES and Appointementes made and stablisshed for ye Kinges honeurable houshold the yere of his regne xxxiij. concluded the xiij. day of Novembr in the Greet Counsail assembled at Westm in maner and fourme as folowith.

Insomoche as faith trouth and liegeaunce compelleth every subgitte to doo alle that in him is for the honer astate and welfar of his soverain lorde, it must neethes be thought and understande that lordes and suche as be called to be counsaillers wt a prince muste more tenderly take to hert thoo things wherin resteth his renoume honer worship and politique rule of his landes and ease of his people, accordyng wherto my lordes of the Kyng or soveraine lordes Greet Counsaill for theire trouth and in acquytyng theym self to the Kyng, shewyng also the good wille and zele that they bere to the welfare of his reaulme and subgittes, have called to mende amonge other things that it is full expedient byhooffull and necessarie to advise ordeyne and stablissh a sadde and a substanciall reule in the Kinges houshold by the which sholde growe to his highnesse not oonly greet honour and worship in this his reaulme and comfort to his people, but also it shold be to his singler renoume fame and laude in other landes and countrees. Moreover it remayneth in the fressh remembraunce of ye said lordes of the Greet Counsaill that the King our souvain lord

beyng in his welfare and good̄ helth̄ of body to the whiche wt Goddes grace he shall right̄ well̄ resorte in short tyme ⸗ was fully avised̄ determined̄ and concluded̄ to refor̄me his said̄ housholde and to sett upp̄ and stablissh̄ there in suche reules and ordenancꝭ to be observed̄ as well̄ in nombre of persones as otherwise ⸗ as were hadde and used̄ of olde tyme ⸗ and sp̄ially in þe daies of þe moost victorious Prince of blissid̄ memorie his fader. Remembring also many and divers declarac̄ons made in Plementꝭ afore this tyme by the Tresorers of England̄ for þe tyme beyng ⸗ as the Lordꝭ Cromwell̄ Seudeley Saye the Bisshop̄ of Carlill̄ the Lord̄ Beauchamp̄ and other and sp̄ially by the right̄ noble Lorde therle of Worcestre tresorer of England̄ that nowe is in the last Parlement of the state of this lande ⸗ thought̄ their trouth̄ and verray obeissaunce constreyneth̄ and compelleth̄ theym to the effectuell̄ execuc̄on of thentent and purpoos of thaire souvain lord̄ and thenke yf they soo not dide greet ñligence and blame might̄ be leide upoñ theym at suche tyme as God̄ shal of his m̄cy restore hym to his helthe. , For the whiche causes and considerac̄ons and such̄ other as moeved̄ theym my said̄ lordꝭ of the Greet Counsaill̄ seyng that soo greet a nombre of people canne nor might̄ easely be kept in the said̄ housholđ as hath̄ nowe a certaine season̄ be therein but of verray necessitee must be abregged̄ and reduced̄ to a resonnable and acompetent felisship̄ as may worshipfully be founde and susteigned̄ in the same ⸗ after ripe and sadde cõicac̄on hadde amounge theymself and wt suche other as was thought expedient and presidentꝭ seeñ of the said̄ housholđ ⸗ the yere and daye abovesaid̄ aviced̄ ordeyned̄ and appointed̄ the nombre and suche psones as foloweñ to be in the said̄ housholđ and to be demeened̄ as well̄ in etyng in the halle chambres and elles wher̄ in man̄e and

fourme as it was used in the Kingꝭ faders tyme. The said ordenance and appointementꝭ to endure as longe as it shal please the King.

T. Kent.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The Confessour | j. Bisshop̃ | j. chapelein<br>ij. squiers<br>ij. yomeñ<br>ij. chamb̃lein |
| Erles | Therle of Richemond | j. chapelein<br>ij. squiers<br>ij. yomeñ<br>ij. chamb̃lains |
| | Therle of Pembroch | j. chapelain<br>ij. squiers<br>ij. yomeñ<br>ij. chamb̃lains |
| Viscount | The Viscount Beaumont | j. chapelein<br>j. squier<br>iij. yomeñ |
| Chamb̃lain | The Lorde Cromwell | j. chapelein<br>j. squier<br>iij. yomeñ |
| Barons | The Lord Beauchamp̃ | j. squier<br>iij. yomeñ |
| | The Lorde Saintamond | j. squier<br>iij. yomeñ |
| Kervers | Edmund Hungreford knight | j. squier<br>ij. yomeñ |
| | Philipp̃ Wentworth knight | j. squier<br>ij. yomeñ |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Phesician | Maister Joħn Fauceby | ij. yomeñ |
| | Maist̃ Williā Hatclyff | j. yomañ |
| Cħrs | Cħrs iiij. eṽicħ of theym | j. yomeñ |
| Secretar̃ | j. secretar̃ | ij. yomeñ |
| | ij. clerkes | |
| Chapeleyns | Maister Joħn Arundell̃ | |
| | Maister Joħn Kirkeby | |
| Squiers for þe body | Joħn Norys | |
| | Joħn Say | |
| | Joħn Penycok | |
| | Joħn Stanley | |
| Gent̃ hussh-ers for þe chambre | Thomas Stauntoñ | |
| | Thomas Pulford̃ | |
| | Bartilmewe Halley | |
| | Richard Molyneux | |
| Clerc of þe closet | Sir Edward̃ | |
| The chapell̃ | j. dene | j. chapelain confessor̃ for þe Housholde |
| | | j. yomañ |
| | xx. chapeleins and clerkꝭ | |
| | vij. childryñ | |
| The vestiar̃ | j. yomañ | |
| | j. grome | |
| Henxmen | Henxmen iij. | |
| | Thomas Stanley | |
| | Joħn Olney | |
| | William Gower | |
| | Joħn Langtoñ | |
| | William Dyngle | |

Squiers of attendaunce.
- Joħn Warner
- Humfrey Salwey
- Thoᵃs Arblaster þe eld
- Thomas Basset
- Thomas West
- Robert Osberñ
- Joħn Stanley þe yong

Yomen of þe crowne.
- Joħn Slytherst yoman of þe Robes.
- Thomas Est
- Joħn Suttoñ
- Henry Rosyngtoñ
- Robert Willyñ
- Nicholas Waltoñ
- Andrewe Lowe
- Joħn Wellisburñ
- Thomas Tyle
- Yoñ Audeles
- Richard Houghtoñ
- Joħn Raulyñ
- Joħn Burle
- Joħn Burgħ
- Henry Castwode
- Joħn Alfrey
- Joħn White
- Richard Clerk yoman of þe Armurie.
- Robert Westcotes
- Thomas Sharp̃
- Richard Myco
- Joħn Barloo
- Piers Prestoñ

- Stepheñ Coote yomañ skynn̄e
- Henri Est yoman of þe Beddes
- William Plomstede

| | |
|---|---|
| Yomen of þe chambre | Joħn Marchaƚƚ yoman surgeoñ<br>Thomas Aldenby<br>Morice Biforđ<br>William Neeles<br>Thomas Beket |
| Gromes of þe chambr̃ | Thomas Carre grome of þe robes<br>Henry Wymbervyle grome of þe beddes<br>William Marchaƚƚ grome skynn̄e<br>Joħn Blyghtoñ grome of þe armurie<br>Joħn Davy grome porter<br>William Lawshiƚƚ<br>William Est<br>Richarđ Bartlot<br>Joħn Briggewat̄ |
| Yoman of þe stole | William Grymesby |
| Pages of þe chambr̃ | Thomas Wilde<br>Joħn Newenham for þe robes |
| Mynstraƚƚ to entende upoñ þe Kyng | Thomas Ratclyff<br>William Wykes<br>John Clyff<br>Roƀt More Wayte |
| The mynstraƚƚ | ix. mynstraƚƚ cōmyng at þe p'ncipaƚƚ festꝰ in the yere |
| Jewelhous | Jewelhous iiij. psones at the principaƚƚ festꝰ in the yere |

The countyng-hous

- The Stewarđ as an erle - - - vij. ꝑsones
- The Tresorer as a baroñ - - - v. persones
- The Countrollor as a kerver - - iij. ꝑsones
- Joħn Evertoñ cofferer - - - - ij. yomeñ
- Thomas Rokes } clerkꝭ of thaccomptꝭ
- Thomas Batemañ } eviсħ of theim j. yomañ
- Joħn Brekenoke clerk of þe countrollement j. yomañ
- Ric̃ Dalafelđ underclerc of þe countrollement
- William Murieħ
- Joħn Swyllyngtoñ yomañ messanger
- Joħn Godier grome
- Simoñ Dysshe page

The office of the bakhous xiij. ꝑsones

- Joħn Threplanđ sergeant
- Henry Westhowe clerc
- William Peye yoman fourner
- William Brynklowe yoman paymenbaker
- Joħn Etoñ grome
- Robert Sende yomañ purveor
- Robert Baxter grome purveor
- vj. gromes bulters

The pantery

- Thomas Bertoñ sergeant
- Joħn Rede yomañ } yomeñ
- Thomas Bedyħ } yomeñ
- Richarđ Randolf } yomeñ
- Joħn Gyldynwater } gromes
- Joħn Cotes } gromes
- Thomas Deye } gromes
- Thomas Sulhiħ page

The celer
- Richard̄ Ludlowe sergeant
- William Bryañ, William Ludlowe, William Yorke — yomeñ
- Joħn Northħfolk, Joħn Claydoñ — gromes
- Joħn Ludlowe page
- William Wytnale yoman for þe botilles

The botery
- William Say yomañ
- Thomas May, William Parker — gromes
- Edward̄ Esthorp̄ page

The ale takers
- Richard̄ Joskyñ yomañ
- Thomas Goodale grome
- Joħn Esthope page

The picherhous
- Williā Wodecok, William Blakborñ — yomeñ
- Henry Bery
- Thoˢs Berwell̄, Nicholas Austyñ — gromes
- Joħn Clampard̄ page

Thoffice of þe spicery v. persones
- William Uldale clerc of þe spicery j. yomañ
- John Colvile, Robert Pecke — under clerkᵉ
- Alexandre Rowtoñ yomañ pouder beter

Confections
- William Fitzwater sergeant
- Robert Broke yomañ
- Piers Lovett grome
- William Brandoñ page

The chaundery
- Robert Wixtoñ, Richard Waleis } yomeñ
- Williā Fletcher, Joħn Rotherey } gromes
- Henry Hoder page

Thoffice of þe kechyñ
- Joħn Hardewike clerc of þe kechyñ j. yomañ
- Joħn Browne, Laurence Werham } under clerkę
- Joħn Gourney m̃ cook for þe King
- Williā Hekeling m̃ cooke for þe halle
- William Pratte yoman, Joħn Couper grome, Robert Goldyng page } for þe Kingę mouthe
- Joħn Bartoñ, Joħn Canne, Robert Litleboy, Richard Brigge } yomeñ
- Joħn Martyñ, Stepheñ Holte, William Smyth, Thomas Rotland } gromes
- Williā Pratte, Richard Edward } pagę
- (for the halle)
- Roger Suttoñ yomañ, Williā Goldyng grome, Joħn Brownyng page } for þe sething place

ij. scourers
vj. childreñ of þe kechiñ tournebroches
ij. porters of þe kechyñ

Thoffice of þe lardery:
George Hetoñ sergeant
Richard Derby clerc
Joħn Martyñ yomañ for þe Kingȩ mouthe
Joħn Luterworth yomañ ussher
James Gray yomañ
Raaf Banaster, Thomas More, Thomas Driffeld — gromes
Joħn Stephens, Henry Snowe, William Gerard — pagȩ

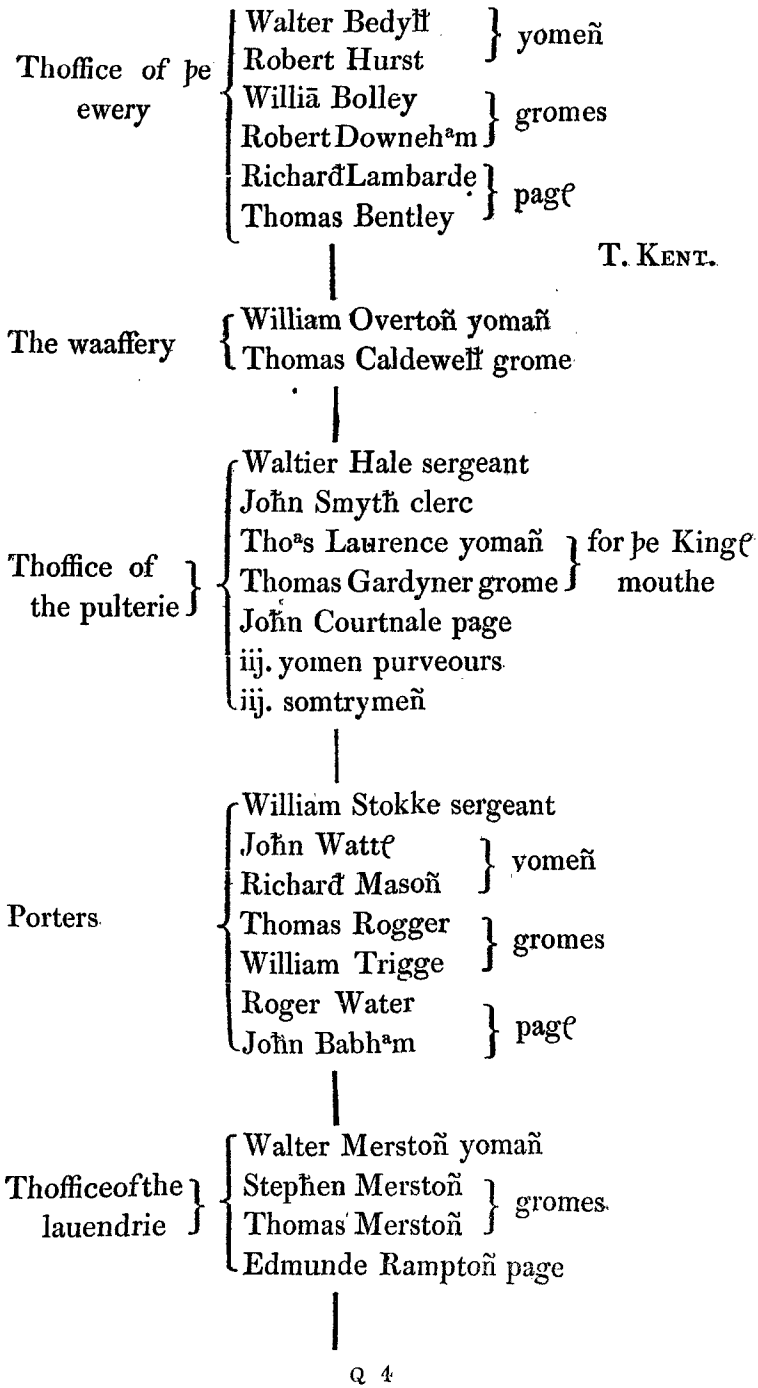
Thoffice of þe catery:
Richard Birde sergeant
Joħn Fenwike clerc
William Stoughtoñ yoman for þe Kingȩ mouþe
Joħn West, Ric̃ Whitehede, Joħn Smyth, Willia̅ Brenstoñ — yomeñ p[r]veo[r]s
iij. gromes bochers
j. grome pigge takeȓ
j. yoman herde
j. grome herde
j. grome talewmañ
William Hamptoñ seefyssher

Thofficeofthe sculerie
- John Meryweder sergeant
- John Power clerc
- Richard Stafford, John Motte, Thomas Bacon — yomen
- Nicholas Clare, Raaf Barlowe, Morys William — gromes
- Robt Driffeld, Richard Burdon, William Fuller — page

Thoffice of þe saulcery
- Robert Broune sergeant
- William Hide clerc
- John Browne yoman, John Merston grome — for þe Kinge mouthe
- David Thomlynson yoman, John Neweman grome, John Smyth, William Botiller — for þe halle

Thoffice of þe halle
- William Elton sergeant
- Thomas Corbyn clerc
- John Wikeham, John Godeman, John Wylde — yomen
- Robert Petyfer grome porter
- John Hunte, John Maynesford — gromes
- William Oston page

- Alexandre Dovour sergeant
- John Penne yoman for þe Kinge mou


Thoffice of þe ewery
Walter Bedyll
Robert Hurst
yomeñ
Williā Bolley
Robert Downehᵃm
gromes
Richard Lambarde
Thomas Bentley
pagℓ
T. Kent.
The waaffery
William Overtoñ yomañ
Thomas Caldewell grome
Thoffice of the pulterie
Waltier Hale sergeant
Joħn Smyth clerc
Thoᵃs Laurence yomañ
Thomas Gardyner grome
for þe Kingℓ mouthe
Joħn Courtnale page
iij. yomen purveours
iij. somtrymeñ
Porters
William Stokke sergeant
Joħn Wattℓ
Richard Masoñ
yomeñ
Thomas Rogger
William Trigge
gromes
Roger Water
Joħn Babhᵃm
pagℓ
Thofficeofthe lauendrie
Walter Merstoñ yomañ
Stephen Merstoñ
Thomas Merstoñ
gromes
Edmunde Ramptoñ page

Herberiours
- Thomas Yerde serjeant
- Joħn Sevyngtoñ
- Joħn Rypoñ

} yomen

Loco Thome Baker fuit positus Joħnes Rypoñ de avisa^to ðno^z

Scalders
- Joħn Bolde yomañ
- William Doget grome
- Joħn Curteis page

Aumeners
- Maister Henry Sever the King^s aumener
- j. yomañ
- Thomas Passheñ und aumener
- Joħn Palmer yomañ
- William Goldewell grome

Marshall
- Joħn Hende
- Raaf a Legh

Assewo^rs for þe halle
- Raynald Griffit
- Richard Bonour

Surveour — William Dautre

Assewo^r for þe King — Edmond Mountfort

Surveo^r for þe King — Joħn Chinall

Surgeons
- Robert Wareñ sergeant
- ~~Joħn Marshall yomañ~~ q^s sup^a in cam̃a
- Thomas Bekbank grome

Thoffice of þe stable
- Joħn Pury avener — j. yomañ
- Williā Fysshlake, Joħn Gyles — clercs
- ij. yomeñ purveo$^{rs}$
- ij. fotemeñ
- j. yomañ garneter
- j. sergeant ferrour
- j. yomañ ferrour
- j. yomañ of hors
- xj. yomeñ and gromes of þe stable

Carte takers
- Richard Rede
- James Batemañ

The Queene - cxx. persones for the Queenes astate

The Prince
- xxxviij. þsones for the Princ̃ astate

Hussher
- Henry Langtoñ

T. Cant' R. York H. Buklngh$^{a}$m Edmund'
W. Ebor̃ Jaspar'
T. London' R. Warrewyk̃ R. Salisbury
W. Wynton'
Joh' Roffen̄ Devon' J. Worcestre
W. Norwicen' R. Dunelmē̄
R. Coven'
J. Lincoln'
W. Elien' T. Dacre.
Cust' p$^{i}$vat' sigill' Stourton' J. Clynton'
Berners Bourgchier
Beaumont Scrop'
R. Sc̃i Joh'is Stanley
John Say.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 110. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Duke of Exeter, 3rd February, and apparently in the 33 Hen.VI. 1455. *Vide* p. 246, *postea.*]

By the King.

R. H.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cousin, For certain riotts and offenses doon by you and othre causes us and oure Counsail moevyng, We wol by th' avis of the same oure Counsaill and in the straitest wise charge you that in all possible hast after the recyvyng of thees our letters ye adresse you unto our castell of Wallinford so that ye be there atte the ferthest on Tywesday next comyng and there abide unto the tyme ye have otherwise in commaundement from us by writyng, not failing herein upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us. Yeven undre oure prive seel and signe manuell at our paleys of Westm̃ the iij$^{d}$. day of Feverer.

To our right trusty and welbeloved cousin the Duc of Excestr̃.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 298. *Original.*

Letters of credence for, and instructions to, the commissioners who were appointed to raise money for the defence of Calais, dated on the 14th of May, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

R. H.[1]

TRUSTY and welbeloved, Forasmoche as we have cōmitted to the berer hereof to open unto you certaine matiers, we wol ye veve feith and credence unto

[1] The King's autograph.

him in that he shal declare on oure behalf, the whiche matiers if ye take tenderly to hert, as we truste ye wol, ye shal do us right singuler plesir and yeve us cause to thanke you right hertely and to shewe you favour in suche thinge as ye shal desire of us. Yeven &c. atte or paleys of Westm the xiiij. day of May the yere &c. xxxiij.

Fiant lre scdm formā supascript cum albis caudis.

By the King.

R. H.[1]

Right trusty &c. we greet you wel, And for asmoche as we be enfourmed aswel by writing as otherwise that oure adversaries have made as greet an armee as thai canne, purposing to besiege or towne of Caleis both by water and by lande, we must of necessite ordeigne a notable nombre of men of werre redy to be sette into or saide towne for the defense and saufgarde thereof. For so moche we have deputed you or cōmissioners to have cōicacon wt or trewe lovers and subgittes and to entrete citees townes abbeys pories and worshipfull men to shewe unto us thaire kyndenesse at this tyme in gauntyng sōmes of money for the causes abovesaide, like as ye shal conceive more atte large by or cōmission made unto you, Wherfore we desire and pray you hertly that ye taking upon you or saide cōmission putte you in yor ful devoir for theffectuell execucon thereof according to thynstruccons made unto you in this behalf, wherein ye shal do us singuler plesir and yeve us cause to thanke you ful hertly and to tendre and favoure you in suche pinge as ye shal desir of us. Yeven &c. ut supa.

[1] The King's autograph.

INSTRUCCON yeven by the King oure souveraigne lord to his comissioners whom he sendeth to have coicacon wt his people in the shire of Kent upon the matiers that folowen, and semble to ope shires.

Furst, in coicacon wt suche as thai shal entrete, thai shal mowe saye the King is enfourmed aswel by writing as otherwise that his adversaries ben verrily disposed to besiege his towne of Caleis and have therfore assembled a greet and a mighti armee aswel by lande as by water, and forsomoche p must nedes be ordeigned a notable nombre bothe of speres and bowes to be sette into his saide towne for the saufgard thereof tille rescowes may come.

Item thai shal mowe saye the King hath comuned here wt many and divers lordes and other notable psones the whiche have putte thaim largely in thaire devoir and have gaunted unto his highnesse by waye of lone notable sommes of money for purveance of the saide speres and bowes, for somoche the King trusteth thai wol do the same, spially in somoche as the saufgard of Calais toucheth the universel weel of alle this his reaume and if any thing shold come therto but good, it sholde be an univsal hurt to alle the Kinge subgitte that God defende.

Item thai shal mowe saye the King considereth wel and every man may do the same, if it so be that ther be redy atte alle tymes a grounde to sette into his saide towne of Caleis a notable people it shal be the grettest seurtee that coude be ymagined for the saufgard thereof and abaisshing of the enemies, Wherfor the King en-

tendeth w$^{t}$ the help̄ of his subgett$^{s}$ to purvey a notable sōme of money to be redy atte alle tymes, the whiche sōmes shal remaigne in a chest undre divers keyes, whereof notable p̄sones shal have the keping and it not to be touched til nede be.

Item the King wol entrete lordes exp̄t in the werre and other notable p̄sones to be leders and redy atte alle tymes whan the cas shal require to putt thaimself into the saide towne and there to abide for the defense thereof, And sith this shal be so sp̄iall a provisiōn for the saide towne that is so rare a jewell̄ for Englande, the King verreily trusteth that every his trewe subgit wol helpe and further the saide entent, wherto the said cōmissioners shal moeve and stire suche as thai sh̄al have cōicac̄on w$^{t}$ by alle the meenes thei canne and by suche resons as thaire discrec̄ons wol lede thaim to.

Item thai shal mowe saye the King desireth that thai wol g$^{a}$unte at this tyme by waye of lone and nooñ otherwise that shal be desired of thaim to be repàied upoñ the next g$^{a}$unt$^{e}$ that shal be made to his highnesse in p̄lement or convocac̄on, every man that leneth̄ to have a patent under the Kyng$^{e}$ greet seel freely w$^{t}$oute any thing paiyng therfore.

Item the said cōmissioners shal ordeigne that suche sōmes of money as shal be graunted be in alle hast brought to his citee of Londoñ there to be delivred to the receivours thereof.

Item thai shal certifie the King and his Counsail distinctly in writing what every citee towne abbot prio$^{r}$ or other man graunteth̄ and of every g$^{a}$unt make endentures betwix̄ þaim and þe g$^{a}$unter.

Item the King wol also that thai direct the l̄res w$^{t}$ blanque tailles to suche ꝑsones as thaim shall seme good and expedient.

Item that thai use the articles of this instrucc̃on in suche ordre as thai thenke moost expedient and doo alle other thingꝭ the whiche thai seme wol serve to the furthering of the Kingꝭ entent and matiers above-said̄.

Anno mense die et loco suprascript̄ Rex de avisa$^{to}$ sui Consilii voluit et mandavit q̧ Custos p$^{i}$vati sigilli sui l̄ras conficeret sub eodem sigillo sc̃d̄m p$^{i}$mū tenorē sup$^{a}$script̄ tot quot necessarie videbunt$^{r}$ cum caudis albis et sub tenore sc̃do sup$^{a}$-script̄ direct̄ cōmissariis inferius noĩatis ⸗ Et eciā instrucc̃oes ꝑ d̄cis cōmissariis in forma sup$^{a}$-script̄.

T. Kent.

Norff
- Ep̄us Norwiceñ
- P$^{i}$or Sc̃e Trinitatꝭ Norwiceñ
- Dñs de Scales
- Joħes Fastolf miles
- Thomas Todenh$^{a}$m miles
- Joħes Heydoñ

Suff
- Ep̄us Norwiceñ
- Abbas de Bury
- Will̄m̄s Tyrell señ armig⁊
- Joħes Cloptoñ armig⁊
- Will̄s Cottoñ armiger

Cantebr̄
- Ep̄us Elieñ
- Joħes Anstede
- Ed̄us Ingaldethorp̄ miles
- Mag̃r de Shyngey

Huntiñ
- Epus Lincolñ
- Abbas de Ramesey
- Walterus *Tayllard*
- Thomas *Tresh*$^{a}$*m*
- Gerardus *de la Hay*

Essex
- Epus Londoñ
- Abbas Sci Johis Colcestr
- Humfrus Dux Buck$^{e}$
- Comes Oxoñ
- Vicecomes Bo$^{r}$gchier
- Thomas Tyrell miles

*ff* Hertford
- Abbas Sci Albani
- Johes Prisot
- Johes Say, Johes Leventhorp armig$^{o}$i
- Rauf Gray
- Edus Westby

*ff* Londoñ & Midd
- Epus Londoñ

T Kanť
- Archiepus Cantuar
- Epus Roffeñ
- Abbas Sci Augusti Canť
- P$^{i}$or eccle Xpi Canť
- Dñs de Bergevenny
- Walter$^{o}$ Moylle
- Gervasi$^{o}$ Clyftoñ, Thomas Brouñ milites

*ff* Surr
- Archiepus Canť
- Abbas de Chertsey
- Dux Som$^{o}$s
- Dñs de Berners
- Henric$^{o}$ Northbury miles
- Will's Kyrtoñ

Sussex
- Epus Cicestr
- Abbas de Bello
- Comes Arundell
- Dns de la War
- Johes Audeley armig?
- Ricus Fynes miles
- Thomas Hoo armig?

} l.

Sutht
- Epus Wintoñ
- Maurici? Berkeley miles
- Johes Lysle miles
- Ric Dalyngregge
- Thomas Ovedale
- Johes Roger

} l.

Oxoñ
- Abbas de Abyndoñ
- Dns de Lovell
- Edus Hampdeñ
- Johes Ewarby
- Edmūdus Reede

} l.

Berk
- Abbas de Redyng
- Dns de Lovell
- Robt? Shotesbroke miles
- Johes Noreys
- Ric Restwold
- Edward? Langford armig?

} l.

Wigorñ
- Epus Wigorñ
- Abbas de Evesham
- Walt? Scull miles
- Johes at Wode armig?
- Thom Lyteltoñ

} l.

- Abbas de Cirencestr
- Dns de Seudeley
- Dns de Beauchamp

Gloucestr̃
- Maurici⁹ Berkeley de Evlegh̃ miles
- Edus Hungreford̃ miles — l.
- Thomas Mill̃ armig⁹
- Will̃s Notyngh̃m

Som̃s
- Epus Bathoñ — l.
- Abbas Glastoñ — l.
- Comes Wilt̃s — l.
- Dn̄s de Botreux — l.
- Alex̃ Hody — armig⁹i
- Will̃s Carrant — armig⁹i
- Ricus Chokke

Dor̃s
- Epus Bathoñ
- Abbas Shirbourn̄
- Comes Wilt̃s
- Will̃ Stourton̄ miles
- Joh̃es Karant sen̄ — armig̃
- Joh̃es Nubourgh — armig̃
- Joh̃es Fylelall̃ — armig̃

Devon̄
- Epus Exon̄
- Comes Devon̄
- Dn̄s Fitz Waren̄
- Dn̄s de Boneville
- Philippus Courteney mil̃
- Robertus Burton̄
- Joh̃es Hengston̄

Cornub̃
- Prior de Launcestoi
- Dn̄s de Boneville
- Joh̃es Denhā miles
- Rogerus Champnon̄

Bedford̃
- Epus Lincoln̄
- Dn̄s Grey Ruthin̄
- Joh̃es Broughton̄
- Will̃s Peke

Buck
- Epus Lincoln
- Dns Richemond Grey
- Will Lucy miles
- Robert Whitingh^am armig?

Northampton
- Abbas de Burgo Sci Petri
- Will Catesby miles
- Tho^s Tresh^am armig?

Warr
- b Prior Coventren
- a Abbas de Killyngworth
- Comes Warrewik
- Will Bermynch^am mil
- Johes Brom
- Tho^s Bate

*ff* Leicestr
- Abbas B'te Marie de pratis Leice
- Dns Beaumount
- Dns Ferrers de Groby
- Leonardus Hastinge miles
- Ricus Nele
- Ricus Hotofte

*ff* Salop
- Abbas Salop
- Johes Bourgh mile:
- Will Ludlowe
- Will Burley
- Will Lakyn

*ff* Stafford
- Epus Cestr
- Dns Duddeley
- Johes Gruffith miles
- Johes Hampton
- Johes Grisley miles
- Will Counbreford

*ff* Derby
- Abbas de Derby
- Comes Salop̃
- Radulphus de la Pole
- Joh̃es Grysley
- Joh̃es Cursoñ

Br̃ Notyngh̃m
- Prior Lemptoñ
- Thoᵃs Chaworth miles
- Will̃ Babyngtoñ
- Robertus Clyftoñ
- Ric̃ Willughby

Br̃ Rutland̃
- Magr̃ Sc̃i Egidii
- Robertus Fenne
- Hugo Boyville
- Will̃ Beufo

Br̃ Lincolñ
- Ep̃us Lincolñ
- Abbas de Thorntoñ
- Vicec̃ Beaumont
- Dn̄s Cromwell̃
- Dn̄s Willughby
- Ric̃ Watton̄
- Thoᵃs Kyme

Br̃ Holland̃
- Abbas de Crowland̃
- Dn̄s de Cromwell̃
- Joh̃es Haryngtoñ
- Ric̃us Pynchebeke
- Ric̃us Welby jun̄

Br̃ Kesteven̄
- Dn̄s de Beaumont
- Thoᵃs Flete
- Will̃ Cote
- John̄s Husey de Veteri Lafford̃ ar̃

| | |
|---|---|
| Br̃ Eboꝝ Estrydyng | Archiep̃us Eboꝝ<br>Comes Saꝝ<br>Dñs Clyfford<br>Dñs Ponyngꝭ<br>Dñs Scrop̃ de Boltoñ |
| Br̃ Northumbr̃ | Comes Northumbr̃<br>Robertus Ogle miles<br>Henricus Fenwike miles<br>Nich̃us Radford miles<br>Thoᵃs Stricland miles |

Item ponatur vicec̃ in quolib̃t co . . .

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 518. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to various lords of Parliament, apparently in June, 33 Hen. VI. 1455. Writs were issued on the 26th May in that year to all the Peers mentioned in this article, (excepting the Earl of Northumberland,) to assemble in Parliament at Westminster on the 9th of July following. *Vide* Appendix, No. II. p. 936, to the Reports of the Lords Committees on the Dignity of a Peer of the Realm.]

Right trusty ꝛc. ⸗ In asmoche as we have ordeyned oʳ Ꝑlement to begynne at oʳ paleys of Westm̃ the ix. day of þe next moneth̃ ⸗ in þe whiche we purpoos [wᵗ Goddꝭ gᵃce amonge other thyngꝭ] to ordeyne for þe restfull and pesible reule wᵗin this oure lande ⸗ the whiche oure purpoos sholđ be greetly letted yf suche as be called to oure said Ꝑlement sholđ come other wise accompaigned then̄ resoñ wolđ. Therfore we by thavis of oʳ Counsaill woll and charge you that yoʳ cōmyng to oʳ said Ꝑlement be in suche wise demened that therby be yeve noon̄ occasion̄ nor example to other to come otherwise then̄ they owe to doo ⸗ but we wol þᵗ ye come mesurably

accompaignied accordyng to yor estate wt yor houshold mayney and noon otherwise / and that ye leve not this / as ye woll answere unto us at yor pill yf any inconvenient ~~therof~~ ensue of the contrarie. Yeven &c.

To þe Duc of York
F . To þe Duc of Norff
B . To þe Duc of Buck

F . Warr
F . Saz
F . Arundell
To therl of . Devon
To therl of . Oxon
B . Shrovesbury
B . Worcestr
B . Wilts
B . Northumb

B . Viscount Beaumont, Borgchr

To þe Lord B . Cromwell, Grey Ruthyn, Rugemond Gray, Bonville, Roos, Berguevenny, Graystok, Scroop Groby

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 113. a modern *Transcript.*

Minute of the Council, 26th June, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

Md' that the xxvj. day of Juyn the xxxiij. yere of oure souverayn lords regne King Henry the vjte. he commaunded by th'advis of his Counsail yat letters of his prive seel shold be directed to the Erle of Worcestre

willynge him, that howe be it that ye King late by his lettres of prive seel commaunded him that he shold goo to the castell of Wallyngford and yere in the same take the charge and gouvernaunce of the Duc of Excestre beyng in warde in the same castell to ye tyme the King gave him oyerwise in commaundement, yet he hath not mowe doo it be cause yat as it is seid the Duchesse of Suff is constable of the same castell and yerfore other letters of prive seel were directed to the seid Erle dischargyng him of the keping the seid Duc in the seid castell and willyng and desyryng him for certain causes moevyng the King to come to his presence &c.

Item, other letters undre the prive seel the same day were directed unto the Duchesse of Suff recytyng ye discharge of the seid Erle of Worcestre for ye same Duc of Excestre, commaundyng her that she entende to ye suer and sauf kepyng of the seid Duc of Excestre as she wol answere unto the King at her perill.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 275. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to the Sheriff of Kent, 5th July, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

Trusty and welbeloved, For asmoche as we for divers causes us moevyng have ordeyned oure Plement to begynne at or paleys of Westm the ix. day of this p̄sent moneth, we not longe agoo directed unto you our writte in forme accustumed for þe chesyng of knighte w'in oure shire of Kent wherof ye be shirrief to come to or said Plement, and as we be enfourmed there is besy labor made in sondry wises by certaine psones for þe chesyng

of the said knight and by liklyhood inconvenient might ensue of suche partie as shall be at the said electiõn ⸗ of the whiche labo^r we mervaylle greetly in somoche as it is noo thing to the honeur of the laborers ⸗ but ayenst their worship ⸗ It is also ayenst the lawes of this o^r lande and orden^a^nces made in that behalf ⸗ For somuche we wol and charge you that ye openly declare on oure behalf at the tyme of þe said electon that o^r will is the [said] shire have theire free electon accordyng to oure said lawes and orden^a^nces ⸗ and that if any mañ of what estate degree or condicon he be of psume to attempte the contrarie he shall renne in o^r grevous displesour ⸗ And ov this we charge you that o^r pees be kept at the said electiõn as ye wol answere unto us at yo^r perill ⸗ And yf any [psone] entende to the cont^a^rie of o^r said will and cõmaundement ⸗ that ye late us and o^r Counsaill in alle haste have knowelache of hym. Yeven tc^a^. at Westm̃ the v^the^. day of Jule the yere tc^a^. xxxiij^ti^.

To o^r trusty and welbeloved John Cheyne knight ⸗ shirrieff of o^r countee of Kent.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 114. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Bishop of Durham, the Earl of Westmoreland, and the Lords Fitz Hugh and Scrope, dated 9th July, 33 Hen. VI. 1455. *Vide* Pinkerton's History of Scotland, vol. i. pp. 232, 233.]

By the King.

Right reverende fader in God right trusty and welbeloved cousins and right trusty and welbeloved ⸗ We grete you hertely well ⸗ lating you wite we have seen and understande to oure grete comfort suche letters as you

wrote to the moost reverende fadre in God th'Archbysshop of Canterbury oure cousin and chaunceller of Englande fro Newe Castell the iij^de^. day of this present moneth, by ye which ye declare at large the manly resisting of oure ennemyes by oure true and faithfull subgitts being w^t^inne oure town and castell of Berwik, and how oure saide ennemyes rebuked ben departed, whereof we have gret cause to thank God highly and yeve special laude and honour to his gloriouse name of his good grace shewed unto us at this tyme, and seyth youre feyth love and kindeness to us, in experience as effectuelly knowen by the devoir labour and payne that ye have put you in in resisting of oure said ennemyes we thank you therof as hertely as we canne and shall have your said kindnesse and demeaning in oure tendre remembraunce with Gods grace at all tymes herafter, And what pleasir oure cousin th'Erle of Northumberland warden whom ye remembr̃ in your said letters hath do unto us puttyng hym in his trewe devoir ayent oure said enemyes he shall understande by suche letters as we sende unto him and we so have hym excusing in noon commyng to our Parlement that it shall not be to his grevance or hurt in any wise. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the ix. day of Juyll ye yere &c. xxxiij.

To the Bisshop of Duresme th'Erle of Westmerlande and the Lords Fitzhugh and Scrop̃.

[*Ibid.* art. 115. Letter from the King to the Earl of Northumberland, 9th July, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved cousin, We grete you hertly well, lating you wite we have understand to our greet comfort and singuler pleasir by such writing as our

cousin and Chanceller of England hath receyved and shewed unto us, th'effectuel devoir diligence labour and payn yat ye have put you in aswel in vitailling oure towne and castell of Berwyk as resisting the malice of oure enemyes, the whiche by the mean of your said diligence and thorough ye manhode of oure faithfull and trewe subgetts have departed ye siege laied by thaym afore oure said town and castell and rebuked ben departed from thens, wherof after laude and preysing yeven to God by whoos grace all good groweth, we thank you as hertly as we canne and shall have your said troth in oure full tender remembraunce, desiring you to contynue hereafter in ye same as oure trust is ye wol, And as for your commyng to our Parlement we shal so take your excuse for this tyme that it shal not be to youre hurte or grevance for ye tyme ye entending upon ye saufgard of the marches wherof ye be warden. Yeven &c. at Westm the ix. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxiij.

To th'Erle of Northumberland.

[*Ibid.* art. 116. Letter from the King to Sir John Heron of Ford, and to Robert Manners esquire, dated 9th July, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, We to oure right grete comfort and gladnesse understande ye feith and trouth diligence and manhode that ye have put you in for the resistence of oure enemyes seuerte and saufgard of oure towne and castell of Berewyk, the which oure said enemyes breking suche trues as they toke with us, ymagined maliciously by way of seige to pulle oute of oure obeissaunce and to that entent brought as grete a puissaunce as they coude by lande and water whom ye manfully resistyng have rebuked and compelled to departe to as grete worship and commendacion of you as

any personne of your degree arreched to many a day past, beside the whiche ye have deserved of us as speciall thank as can be thought, for youre saide service is as agreable unto us as it may be and shal not hereafter be put oute of oure remembrance, trustyng yf oure saide enemyes the which have ayenst their feith and trouth attempted directly to hurt us wold hereafter in executing their fals and malicious purpoos retourne to oure grevaunce that ye wol manfully resiste theym as ye have doo at this tyme in encresing of your said honour and commendation. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the ix. day of Juyll.

To S^r^ John Heyron of Forde knyght.
To Robert Maners esquier.

[*Ibid.* art. 117. Letter from the King to Sir John Gresley, knight, and Roger Vernon, dated 12th July, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, We be enfourmed y^t^ ye and other have now late riottously assembled oure people ayenst our pees, wherof we be gretly displesed as we have cause soo to be, For somoche we wol and charge you upon ye feith and liegeance y^t^ ye owe unto us and as ye wol eschewe oure grevous indignation yat ye come and be w^t^ us and oure Counsaill at oure paleys of Westmynstr̃ the xxj. day of this present moneth to answere to such things as shal be declared unto you at your commyng and y^t^ ye in ye mean tyme by you nor noon of yours noo thing attempte y^t^ may be or soune ayenst oure said pees upon ye payne abovesaid. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the xij. day of Juyll the yere &c. xxxiij^ti^.

To John Gresley knight.
To Roger Vernon.

[*Ibid.* art. 118. Letter from the King to Nicholas Gresley, dated 12th July, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, We late you wite y^t^ we have knowlach to oure gret displesour of such assembles as now late have be made in ye countee where as ye dwelle by your kinnesmen and oyere, and we can wel supose ye favour some of ye parties oyere wise yan it apperteyneth unto you to doo, Wherefore we wol and charge you y^t^ ye come and be personnally w^t^ us and oure Counsaill &c. ut supra usq; ibi oure said pees tunc sic, and we wol ye leve not this as ye wol eschewe oure grevous indignation. Yeven as above &c.

To Nicholas Grysley.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum Consilii sui anno die et loco supradict'.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 119. Letter from the King to William Say, bailiff of Sandwich, and others, dated on the 23rd July, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

HENRI &c. to oure trusty and welbeloved squier William Say baillief of Sandewich or to his deputee yere gretyng, We late you wete yat we of oure grace especiale have yeven and graunted to oure right trusty and welbeloved cosyn Richard erle of Salesbury a bicoket garnisshed and gilt, ij. saletts garnisshed and not gilt, ij. peire of briganders coveret w^t^ velvet set w^t^ gilt nailes, and a gowne of velvet and all other harnoyses beyng in youre kepyng ye whiche were of ye Lord Camoys oure rebell ye whiche apperteyne unto us, as forfaited by cause of his rebellion, to have of oure yift withouten any accounte or any othre thing to us yerefore yeldyng. Wherefore we wol and charge you that unto oure saide cousyn or unto the berer herof in his name ye delivere ye

saide bycoket garnisshed and gilt, ij. saletts garnisshed and not gilt, ij. peire of bryganders covered with velvet set w^t^ gilt nailes, and a gowne of velvet and all othre harnoyses beyng in youre kepyng as it is abovesaid, and yees oure letters hereynne shall be unto you suffisaunt warrant and discharge. Yeven under oure prive seal at Westm̃ ye xxiij. day of Juyl ye yere &c. xxxiij^e^.

Semble letters to Thomas Epstall clerc of oure castell of Dovore or his deputee yℏe, and after the copie under writen severall letters of allouance to William Say and Thomas Epstall abovesaid &c.

[*Ibid.* 4th August, 33 Hen.VI. 1455.]

Henri &c. to the Tresorer and Barons of oure eschequier gretyng, For as moche as we by oure other letters under oure prive seal beryng date at Westm̃ ye xxiij. of Juyll last passed graunted unto oure right trusty and welbeloved cousyn Richard erle of Salesbury a bycoket cum omnibus aliis &c. ut supra beyng in ye kepyng of oure trusty and welbeloved squier William Say ballief of Sandewiche or his deputee, ye which were of ye Lord Camoys oure rebelle and ye whiche apperteyne unto us as forfaited by cause of his rebellion, to have of oure yeft withoute any accounte or any other thyng to us yerfore yeldyng, and by the same oure letters yave in commaundement to oure forsaid squier or his deputee yat he should deliver unto oure said cousyn ye said bycoket, two saletts, ij. peire of bryganders, a gowne of velvet and all othre harneyses beyng in his kepyng as it is above said like as in oure said letters more plainly it was conteyned. We yerfore wolle and charge you yat in yaccounte ye whiche oure saide squyer as to yelde afor you by cause of his forsaid office ye make unto hym due allouance of all yat yat by vertue of oure for-

said letters he hath delivered of ye said bicoket ij. saletts ij. peire of briganders a gowne of velvet and all other hernoyses abovesaid unto oure said cousin or unto ye same berer in his name and yerof make hym quyte and discharged ayenst us and oure heires in oure said escheqyer for evermore. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye fourth day of August ye yere &c. xxxiij.

De mandato Domini ad speciale desiderium Comitis supradicti &c.

[*Ibid.* art. 120. Letter from the King to the Duchess of Burgundy, dated on the 25th July, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

Henry par la grace de Dieu Roy d'Engleterre et de France et seignour d'Irlande, a haulte et puyssante Princesse notre treschiere et tresamee cousine la Duchesse de Burgoigne &c. saluz, Bien avez en remembraunce les appointemens et abstineñ de guerre pieca faitz et encores durans entre nous noz roiaulmes seignuriez et obeissans subgietz d'une part et notre treschier cousin le Duc votre seignur et mary et ses pais et subgietz quelxconques d'autre part pur l'entrecours et continuation du fait de marchandise des uns ovesque les autres, nientmoins a nous fest nagairs griefment compleint notre ame Robert White maire de notre estaple a Calais, disant que environ la fin du mois de Juing darreinement passe en cest an present mcccclv. Thomas Wymark son procurur̃ attourne et factour notre subgiet natif en notre royalme d'Angleterre estant par dela ou counte de Flaundres faisant son fait de marchandise a este hostilement par voie de fait prins a Burburgh ou illec environ par un chevalier nomme Pierre de Prennes votre subgiet et est mene prisoner̃ ou il a pleu a ycelluy chevalier ovec telz biens or argent lettres obligations et autres choses que le dit Thomas avoit ovec luy que on

estime estre de grant valeur, les quelles choses ont este et sont faites contre le tenur des dictes abstineñ et appointemens en attemptant griefment a l'encontre dicelles et ou tresgrant prejudice et dommage duđ complaignant et de son factour dessus nomme noz subgietz, Et est tresclere a cognoistre que se a telez entreprises nest viguerusement resiste il seroit tresdificile de continuer leđ entrecours de marchandise, Et pur ce haulte et puissante Princesse notre treschier et tresame cousine nous vous prions et requirons instanment par ces presentes que procurez ou de par leđ Duc notre cousin faites tant procurer que icelluy Thomas Wymark ovec ses biens et choses quelxconques procheinement soit restitue et mis a pleinier deliveraunce ainsi quil appartient selonc la tenure des appointementz dessus declares en tiel maniere que naions cause de purvoier de remede a noz ditz subgietz par autre moien en tiele case convenable et requiz, et quoy ferez raisoñ et justice et a nous tresinguler pleasire haulte et puissante Princesse notre treschier et tresamee cousine se pardeca vous plaist aucune choise veulliez la nous signifier feablement et de tresboñ cueur nous noz y emploierons, ce scet notre seigneur Dieux qui vous ait en sa benoite garde. Donñ soubs notre prive seal a notre paloys de Westmonstier le xxv. jour de Juillet.

Anno xxxiij°.

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[Bibl. Harl. 1878. f. 4. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer thereto, 2nd August, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

To the Kyng our sovain lorđ.

Please it your highnesse of your spall gace to gaunt to your humble subget John Shipwarđ your gacious lres

of licence to be made aftir the forme here suyng, and he shall pray God for your most noble estate.

R. H.[1]

Pro omnib3 ad quos &c. saltm, Supplicavit nob dilcus nob Johes Shipward ut ei concedere & licenciam dare velimꝰ qd ipe p se aut fctores sive attornatos suos quandam navem portagii trescentoz dolioz vel infra cum bonis & mcandisis licitis quibuscumq3 ad stapulam ville nre Calez non ptinentib3 carcare seu carcari face, & navem illam sic carcatam cum magro & marinariis p gubnacoe hujusmodi navis competentib3 usq3 partes Vascon seu Ispann tociens quociens ei placuit durantib3 psentib3 lris nris tduce seu tnsmitte aut tduci seu tnsmitti face & ibidem navem pdcam discarcare seu discarcari face & eandem navem cum aliis bonis & mcandisis quibuscumq3 recarcatam in regnu nrm Angl aut alia loca nob subjecta quecumq3 adduce seu adduci face possit licite & impune, Nos supplicacoi pdce favorabiliꝰ inclinati licenciam pdcam pfato Joh tenore psenciu duximꝰ concedend, Nolentes qd iidem Johes fcores & attorn aut magistꝰ & marinarii pdci rone pmissoz p nos aut heredes nros seu officiarios vel ministros nros seu heredum nroz quoscumq3 futuris temporib3 inquietentr molestentr in aliquo seu gaventr seu eoz aliquis inquietetr molestetr seu gavetr quovis modo. In cujus &c. p trienniu px futur duraturꝰ. T. &c.

Lre inde emanarunt apud Westm ijdo. die Augusti anno &c. xxxiijo.

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[1] The King's autograph.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 121. a modern *Transcript.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 6th August, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

To the King our soveraign lord.

BESECHIT mekely unto your highness prestis and clerkis of youre most honourable chapell of household benyngli to consider the grete labour that thei have daily in yonr chapell bicause the numbre of hir feliship is lasse that it was woned to be, and for to ordeyne such a numbre as they may endure and doo better service to God and to your highnesse, and that this numbre may be at the least xxiiij. synging men, and that youre pore prest and bedeman S^r^ William Stevenys which hath be many yeres in your most honorable service may be still in his occupation to say daily masse of Our Lady to rede the gospell and kepe the vestiary undre your Dean and a man to be bound daily to rede the epistle, and hereuppon to yeve in commaundement to the Steward Tresorer Countroll^r^ Coferer and to the Dean of your chapell and to eche of hem to receyve and to take able persones to your chapell aftir the forme above rehersed without any other warrant of prevy seel or otherwise, and they shall pray God for yow.

vj°. die Augusti anno &c. xxxiij°. apud Westm̃ Rex de avisamento Concilii sui voluit quod dictus Willus Stevenes remaneat ad dicendum missam Beatæ Mariæ Virginis et ad legendum Evangelium custodiendumq̃ vestiarium prout in billa specificatur, et quod alius deputetur ad legendum epistolam, mandavitq̃ Custodi privati sigilli sui ad dirigendum literas sub eodem sigillo Senescallo Thesaurario Contrarotulatori et Cofferario hospitii sui ac Decano capellæ suæ ad acceptandum et ad-

nittendum dictum Dominum Willum ad occupationem prædictam et ad deputandum unum ad egendum epistolam ut supra, præsentibus Dominis Cancellario Thesaurario Angliæ Episcopis Londoñ et Wintoñ Comitibus Warr̃ et Sarum Fauconberge Decano Sancti Severini Stanley et Joħe Say ꝛc.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Nero, B. I. f. 52. *Original.*

Letter from the King to Alphonso King of Portugal, dated 8th August, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

R. H.[1]

Sere^mo ꝛt illustrissimo principi Alfonso Dei gr̃a Portugalie et Algarvii Regi Cepteq; đno fratri suo carissimo, Henricus eadē gr̃a Rex Anglie et Francie et đns Hibernie cum sincera dilecc̃oe salutem, Accepimus libenti aĩo ł̃ras ex manib; clarissimoꝝ viroꝝ Baronis Dñi Ferdinandi de Castro et Petri de Falero legum doctoris quos ad p̃nciā ñram legac̃oe oneratos nup t^a^nsmisistis, quoꝝ credenciā quā ł̃re ip̃e meminerant audire curavimus, que maxime in illo versabatur q; attemptata con^a ligā et amicicias reformarentur, punirent^r infractores, dignaq; ꝑvisio haberetur ꝑ futuro similib; non cōmittendis, que singula amplissimis et elegantissimis verbis iidem sere^tis v. oratores sūt ꝑsecuti, Nos vero petita ꝑ ip̃os justa et honesta videntes deputavimus e vestigio maturos viros ad ꝑcedenđ cum eisdē, int̃ quos actū est quantū tempus fieri ꝑmisit et nonnulloꝝ petitoꝝ realis f̃ca est restituc̃o, cum hocq; intelligat celsi^do v. nos õem opā daturos ut

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[1] The King's autograph.

con[a] ip̃as ligas et amicicias [cōmissa] integre reforment[r] et castigent[r] cessentq̄ similia in futurū, ad quē finē cōmissiones et ꝑclamac̃oes fieri jussimus que servire ad hoc poterunt nulloq̄ modo ꝑ nos stabit quin d̃ce amicicie illese ꝑmaneant, quoniā ꝑter ligā et amicicias ip̃as int̃ ꝑgenitores hincinde dudum contractas et ꝑ nos confirmatas singularis amor quē in fraternitatē v̄ram h̄emus et affecc̃o ñris concepta viscerib3 nos inducunt ut studeamus õi cura ad complacendū eidē v. celsi[ni] non solum in lige obſvac̃oe s3 ceteris q̄buscumq̄, Nos insuꝑ memoratos oratores egregios viros qui modeste eleganter honeste et cū magna gravitate cōmissa eisdē exposuerūt et tractarunt dignos v̄ro favore judicamus talesq̄ qui magna cōmendac̃oe sunt extollendi, Illud tamen nobis admirac̃oi cedit q̃d dum ip̃i supꝑ reformac̃oe dampnoꝝ subdit[ę] ñris ꝑ v̄ros illatoꝝ interrogarent[r] nullū responsū effectuale dantes dixerūt supꝑ hoc se cōmissionē non h̄ere q[a]mq[a]m dignū et justū sit si restituc̃o fieri debeat ita ñris ut v̄ris ꝑvideat[r] quod v̄ra serenitas cure h̄ere velit quoniam nonnulli ex ip̃is subdit[ę] ñris gravissime conquerunt[r] q̃d ip̃i ꝑ dampnis illat[ę] eisdem longam et diligentē ꝑsecuc̃oem apud Vos fecerunt sine fructu, et serenitatē v̄ram Om̄ipotens dirigat felicit̃. Datum ꝛc[a]. ex palac̃o ñro Westm̃ viij°. die Augusti regnoꝝ vero ñroꝝ anno xxxiij°.

(*In dorso.*) viij°. die Augusti anno ꝛc. xxxiij°. apud Westm̃ Rex de avisa[to] Consilii sui voluit et mandavit q̃d Custos p[ri]vati sigilli sui ſras fieri faceret sub eodem sigillo sc̃dm formam sup[a]script̃, p̃ntib3 Dñis Cancell̃ et Thes̃ Anglie Ep̃is Londoñ ꝛ Wintoñ Comitib3 Saꝝ et Wigorñ P'ore Sc̃i Joh̃is Decano Sc̃i Seṽini et Joh̃e Say ꝛc.

T. Kent.

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 122. a modern *Transcript.*
Petition to the King with the Answer, 9th August, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.]

To the King oure sovarein lord.

PLEAS it unto youre highnes of youre most spall and habundant grace to grante unto youre pore and contynuall trewe liegeman Thomas Lomley knyght youre gracieux letters patentes to be made under youre greete seall in dewe forme after the tenoir that folowith and he shall ever pray to God for your most noble astate.

R. H.

REX omnibus ad quos &c. salutem. Sciatis quod cum dilectus et fidelis noster Thomas Lomley miles habens ex concessione nostra per litteras nostras patentes officium constabularii castri de Scardeburgh pro termino vitæ suæ cum vadiis feodis proficuis et commoditatibus eidem officio debitis et consuetis eisdem modo et forma prout Radus Babthorp dum vixit habuit et occupavit in voluntate existat easdem litteras nob in cancellar, nostram restituere ibidem cancelland ad intentionem quod nos alias litteras nostras patentes eidem Thomæ de officio prædicto magis sufficientes in forma sequenti concedere dignaremur. Nos consideratione boni et gratuiti servicii quod prædictus Thomas nob impendit in diesq; impendere non desistit ac pro eo quod idem Thomas litteras prædictas nobis in cancellar nostram prædictam ex causa prædicta restituit cancelland. de gratia nostra speciali ac de avisamento et assensu Consilii nostri concessimus eidem Thomæ custodiam dicti castri nostri de Scardeburgh in com Eborum ac omnia et omnimoda exitus proficua et commoditates quæcumq; eidem castro qualitercumq; pertinentia sive spectantia in valorem viginti librarum per annum pro custodia castri prædicti

simul cum una roba percipiend annuatim ad magnam garderobam nostram per manus custodis ejusdem garderobæ nostræ pro tempore existen et viginti et quinq marcas percipiend annuatim de exitibus sive firma villæ de Scardeburgh per manus ballivorum firmariorum aut aliorum occupatorum ejusdem villæ pro tempore existen. necnon viginti et quinq marcas percipiend annuatim de exitibus et proficuis firmis et revencionibus dicti com Eborum per manus vic ejusdem com pro tempore existen ad terminos Sancti Michis et Paschæ per equales portiones. Habend percipiend et occupand per ipsum Thomam aut per sufficientem deputatum suum pro termino vitæ suæ, proviso semper quod prædictus Thomas teneatur ad expendend et ponend annuatim quadraginta marcas de prædictis quinquaginta marcis circa reparationem et emendationem castri prædicti et quod percipiat habeat et retineat sibi decem marcas residuas de prædictis quinquaginta marcis pro labore suo circa reparationem et emendationem supradictas, eo quod expressa mentio de vero valore exituum proficuorum et commoditatuum prædictorum aut aliquo statuto actu sive ordinatione inde incontrarium fact edit seu provis in aliquo non obstante. In cujus &c. T. &c.

(*In dorso.*) Nono die Augusti anno &c. xxxiij. apud Westm Rex de avisamento Consilii sui concessit hanc billam mandavitq; Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras fieri facere sub eodem sigillo Dño Cancell Angliæ dirigend ac faciend litteras patentes sub magno sigillo in forma prædict, præsentibus Dominis Cancell et Thes Angliæ Comitibus Sarum et Wigorn Priore Sancti Johis Decano Sancti Severini et Johanne Say &c.

T. Kent.

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo quarto.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 336. *Original.* This article is printed on the Rolls of Parliament, vol. v. p. 453.

Minute of the Council, 10th November, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

Decimo die Novembris anno regni Regꝭ Henrici sexti tricesimo quarto apud Westm̃ in Camera Stellata Rex de avisa^to Consilii sui et Dñoꝝ sp̃ualiū et temꝑaliū ex eo q̃d ob certas causas in ꝑpria ꝑsona sua duodecimo die hujus mensis quo die parliamentū [suū] apud Westm̃ teneri debet quibusd^am certꝭ de causis interesse non poterit. Voluit et ordinavit q̃d sub magno sigillo suo fieret cōmissio carissimo consanguineo suo Ric̃o Duci Eboꝝ sc̃d̃m tenorem subscriptū. Rex om̃ibꝫ ad quos ꝛc^a. salt̃m. Sciatis q̃d cū ꝑ quibusdam arduis et urgentibꝫ negociis nos statum et defensionem regni ñri Anglie ac eccl̃ie Anglicane contingentibꝫ quoddam ꝑliamentū ñrm nuꝑ apud [palaciū nr̃m] Westm̃ teneri et usq; [ad] duodecimū diem hujus instantis mensis Novembris ad idem palaciū nr̃m adjornari ꝛt ꝑrogari ordinavim⁹. Quia vero d̃co ꝑliamento ñro ꝑpt̃ certas justas et racionabiles causas in ꝑsona ñra non poterim⁹ interesse. nos de circūspecc̃oe et industria carissimi consanguinei ñri Ric̃i ducꝭ Eboꝝ plenam fiduciam reportantes eid̃m consanguineo ñro ad ꝑliamentū p̃d̃cm noĩe ñro tenend̃ et in eodem ꝑcedend̃ et ad faciend̃ om̃ia et sing̃la. que ꝑ nobis et ꝑ nos pro bono regimine et gub̃nacione regni ñri p̃d̃ci ac alioꝝ d̃nioꝝ ñroꝝ eid̃m regno ñro ꝑtineñ ibidem fu̅int faciend̃. necnon ad ꝑliamentū illud finiend̃ et dissolvend̃ de assensu Consilii ñri plenam tenore presenciū cōmittimus.

potestatem. Dantes ulteri⁹ de assensu [ejusdē] Consilii ñri tam univ̄sis et sing̃lis archiep̃is ep̃is ab̄b̄ib3 prioribꝫ ducib3 comitib3 vicecomitib3 baronib3 et militib3 cū om̄ib3 aliis quoꝝ interest ad ꝑliamentū ñrm p̄dictū conventur̃ similit̄ tenore p̄senciū firmiter in mandatꝰ q̃d eiđm consang^i^neo ñro intendant in p̄missis in forma p̄đca. In cuj⁹ ꝛc^a^. Teste ꝛc^a^.

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|---|---|---|
| T. Cant' | J. Oxenford' | Will's Abbas Wy'checo'b' |
| W. Eboꝝ | R. Dunelmēſ | Reginald⁹ Ep'us Cicestren' |
| T. London' | J. Hereforden' | Joh' Abbas Thorney |
| W. Wynton' | H. Bukingh^a^m | W. Faucomberge |
| J. Lincoln' | R. Warrewyk | Will' Abbas Cirencestr' |
| W. Elien' | J. Worcestre | Joh'es Abbas Sc̃i Ed'i |
| W. Norwicen' | W. Abbas Colc̃ | Will' Abb' Abendon' |
| Georgius | R. Salisbury | R. Sc̃i Joh'is |
| Abb' Sc̃i Aug'i | Bourgchier | Rychemont |
| Abbas Glouc̃ | Joh' Abbas Radingie | Scrop' |
| P. Wygor' | Abbas de Bello | Fitzwaryn |
| J. Ausapp | Arundell | Grey |
| J. Covētr' | Abas de Hyda | Stourton' |

(*In dorso.*) Die anno et loco p̄dictꝰ Rex de avisa^to^ Consilii sui voluit ꝛ mandavit q̃d Custos p^i^vati sigilli sui . . . . sub eođm sigillo ł̄ras fieri faceret Domino Cancell̄ Anglie ad faciend̄ sub magno sigillo cōmissionē sup^a^đcam đnis se subscribentib3 ut patet.

T. Kent.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v.f. 178. *Original.*

Petition to the King and Council, with the Answer, 19th Novemb 34 Hen.VI. 1455.

To the Kyng oure soverain lord and to the lordes spuel and temporell of his moost noble Counsail.

Besechith mekely youre humble liege man John Tempest knyght to graunte youre lres under youre prive seel to be made in fourme folowing, and he shal pray to God for youre moost noble estate.

Henry &c., to the Tresorer and barons of oure eschequier, For asmoch as oure trusty and welbeloved John Tempest knyght by us ordeyned and deputed to be sherief of Lincolnshire for pis yere hath for certaine causes for him allegged utterly refused to take upon him the charge of pe said office, withoute that it like us so to purvei for him that he take noo losse in pe said office, like as we have doon nowe in late yeres for othir that have ben sherieff of the said shire, We considering the hurtes and manyfold inconvences that shuld ensue, not oonly to us but also to oure subgites, namely in lettyng of theire sutes at cōmune lawe, if pe said shire shuld longe stande destitute of a sherief, wol and by padvis of oure Counsail have graunted to the said John that he shal occupie the said office by approwment and so accompte for this yere, And therfor we charge you that in his accompte that he shalbe to yelde unto us by cause of his said office ye charge him not with the hoole extente of the said shire, that is to say of thees twoo fermes called de remañ firme com̃ post terras dat̃ and firma com̃ num̃o, and also of thees perticuler prouffites called de firmis ballia auxilium

vic̃ francipleg̃ certi fines issues prouffites noor noon othir thinges by him to be reiseđ by vertue of þe sōmons of þe pipe or of þe grenewex in þe saiđ shire, save oonly of such parcelles as he with his trewe diligence shal arrere and gader, and þat of all the remen[a]nt that shal come and growe unto us of þe saiđ shire ye utterly and clerely discharge and acquite þe saiđ John Tempest knyght shirief aforesaiđ by his othe or by þothe of his depute sufficiant accompting for him, with outen any issue triall or averrement betwix us and him to be hađ therin. Yeven &c

T. Cant'
W. Ebor̃
T. London
J. Lincoln
R. Yori
R. Salisbury.
R. Sĉi Joh'is Stourton'
W. Faucomberge.

*In dorso.*) xix°. die Novembris anno &c. xxxiiij^to^. apud Westm̃ in Cama. Stellata Rex de avisa^to^ Consilii sui voluit & mandavit, q̃d Custos p̃vati sigilli sui fras sub eodem sigillo fieri faceret sēm tenorem infrascriptū, Dñis se subscribentibz ut patet, attento ut Henricus Ratford qui fuit vic̃ anno ꝓterito ejusdm com̃ & nonnulli alii vicecomites retroact̃ tempibz eodm modo fuerunt & occupaverunt.

T. Kent.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 100. *Origina..*

Letter from the King to the Pope, dated 4th of December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455. A Letter to the Pontiff, dated on the 6th of November in this year, is printed in the Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 367.]

Sc̃issimo in Xp̃o p̃ri et domino d̃no Calisto divina ꝓvidencia sacrosc̃e Ro^ne ac universalis eccl̃ie Summo Pontifici.

Bea^me pat̃ post devotissima pedum oscula beatoꝝ et humilem filii recommendac̃oem impellim^r b̃tissime p̃r pro eadm re ñras ad s. v. multiplicare ĩras quod efficere non piget, quando quidem omnis ñr labor ad laudem Dei et eccl̃ie sue honorem protendere dinoscit^r. Est verũ p̃r sc̃e ubi nup nũcius celet eccl̃ie Exonien̄ vacac̃oem ad ñram noticiã deduxerat, statim cõmendavim^9 Magr̃m Joh̃em Hals s^ti v. pro futur̃ ejusdem eccl̃ie antistite, et secutũ est ꝑ quorũdã relacione ꝓcipit^r e. s^tas v. eundm Magr̃m Joh̃em ad ep̃atum ip̃ius eccl̃ie Exonien̄ auc^te ap̃lica promovit. Verum bea^me pater uti ex aliis posterioribꝫ ĩris ñris e. s^tas clare concipe potuit, multa concurrunt que et nos et e. s^tem v. movere debeant ut supradca promocio non sorciat^r effc̃m quoꝝ quedam dcis ĩris ñris postremis cõmemoravim^9, ꝑcipue q̃d dudũ ad instanciam et inꝑpellac̃oem principũ procerũ et nobiliũ ac tocius cõitat̃ hujus regni ñri ꝑsonam fidelis consanguinei ñri Georgii Nevill̃ filii carissimi consang^nei ñri Comitis Saꝝ quem in administrac̃oe et regĩe ñre rei pu^ce singularem adjutorem ad lat^9 tenemus, recõmissum fecim^9 ad

ep̃atum ꝑxīo in hoc regno extunc vacaturū q̃d minime ad mentem ꝑveñat tempore quo ꝑ eođm Mag̃ro Joħe scripseramus. Et quantus t^a^nquillitatꝭ auctor quant⁹ꝗ eccl̃ie [tutor] et colūpna pacꝭꝗ ñre conſvator et illi⁹ p̃rie pater que in finibꝫ regni ñri constituta quorumdam dissensionibꝫ et discordiis nonnūq^a^m inquietatur futurus ħebit^r^ iđm Georgius potenti et nobilissima prosapia pollens ⁄ qui eciā ingenio et circūsp^c^tione plurimū valet ⁄ partim ip̃e ñre supiores l̃re declarant ⁄ que om̄ia et si satꝭ s^ti^ v. ꝑsuadeant ip̃m ad fastigiū p̃fate dignitatꝭ fore sublimandū ⁄ non nichil supaddit q̃d jam canonici et confr̃es gremiales ejusdem eccl̃ie graves quidē et magne auctoritatꝭ viri uno ore quasi sp̃us s̃ci flatu inspirati die statuto ad eligendū sibi pontificem in unū convenientes eunđm Georgiū in ep̃m et pastorem ip̃ius eccl̃ie eciam cū acclamac̃oe et consensu unanimi postularūt ⁄ que sing̃la cōsiderās iđm Mag̃r Joħes optimū zelum et oculos ħens ad honorem et utilitatem prefate eccl̃ie et p̃rie quietem bonū pu^cu'^ sue ꝑmoc̃oni anteferens sua sponte a p̃fata provisione recessit ⁄ renūciavitꝗ eiđm sicut ꝑ instrumentū pu^cu'^ supinde confectū quod s^ti^ v. t^a^nsmittim⁹ clare constat. Hinc est pat̃ bea^me^ q̃d p̃ces jam a nobis eciā sepius repetunt^r^ ut e. s^tas^ rem optatam efficere et absolṽe dignet^r^ eunđm Georgiū virū bonū sapientē gravē et modestū atꝗ oĩm laude dignissimū ad p̃fatā eccl̃iam viduatam promovendo ne diut^r^na ejus vacac̃o magnū afferat detrimentū eiđm ⁄ et hoc ip̃am s^te'^ v. facturā fore confidim⁹ q^a^m mature exemplo illo ducti ⁄ q̃d sine mora ille ñre l̃re quas ꝑ p̃fato Mag̃ro Johanne pridem direxim⁹ effc̃m sortite fuerant. Ea enim rac̃one s.^tas^ v. Deo et nobis non mediocriter complacebit et erit optime eccl̃ie Exonieñ provisū s^tem^ꝗ ṽram felicissime conſvet Altissimus. Datum ex

palacõ ñro Westm̃ ñro sub p'vato sigillo mensis Decembris die quarto regnoꝝ vero ñroꝝ anno tricesimo quarto.

Devotus filius Henricꝰ Dei gr̃a Rex Anglie ⁊ Francie ac Dominꝰ Hib̃nie ⁊cª.

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|---|---|---|
| E. V. S. | OXENFORD' | BOURGCHIER |
| T. CANT' | GEORGIUS ABB' SC̃I AUG'I | R. SC̃I JOH'IS |
| W. EBOꝝ | ABBAS GLOUC̃ | W. FAUCOMBERGE |
| T. LONDON' | RIC̃ ABBAS DE BELLO | H. FITZHUGH' |
| W. WYNTON' | ABBAS SC̃I PETⁱ DE HYDA | GREY |
| JOH'ES ROFFENſ | H. BUKINGHªM | SEUDELEY |
| N. LANDAV̆ | R. SALISBURŸ | J. CLYNTON' |
| W. NORWICEN' | ABBAS WY'CHECŌB | H. SCROP' |
| W. ELIEN' | JOH'ES ABBAS DE SELBY | STOURTON' |
| R. YORK | BEAUMONT | |
| R. WARREWYK | BERNERS | |

(*In dorso.*) Die anno ⁊ loco p̃dcis Rex p̃ avisaᵗᵘ' Consilii sui voluit et mandavit q̃d Custos p'vati sigilli sui ſras sub eod̃m sigillo fieri faceret sc̃d̃m formam p̃dc̃am, Dñis se subscribentibꝫ ut patet.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 146. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Earls of Arundel and Wiltshire, the Lords Fitz Warine and St. Amand, and other lords, knights, and esquires, 5th December, 34 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cosin, We holde for certayn that ye have right well understande the straung and outrageus demenyng that divers persones not best

avised have entended unto nowe a certayne reason[1] in oure counte of Devonshire, and that there is assembled grete peple the which robbe and spoile daily, as it is said, oure true subgetts and inhabitants of oure said countee, so ferrefurth that w^t^oute hasty remedy gretter inconvenients were full like to ensue, as we not oonly conceive but also the communes of this oure lande assembled in this present Parlement[2] have made to us and the lords of ye said Parlement grete and many requests for the setting downe of the said riotouse and ungodly demeanyngs, the which things considered and that oure part is to provide for the restfull and peesible reule of this oure said lande and to chastice suche as neithre fere God nor us to example of othre, we have willed and desired oure right trusty and right entierly welbeloved cosin the Duc of York protectour and defensour of this oure said lande to adresse hym into the said countre for the setting apart of the said misgovernaunce, the whiche full kyndely hath he take it upon hym although it be to his right grete and full laborous charge, namely this tyme of the yere, And in asmoche as the mater is of grete weght and most full wisely and manly be conveied and directed so that it may take a gode and worshipfull conclusion, it is thought to us and oure Counsaill full necessarie and behovefull that oure said entierly beloved cosin be notably accompained and have assistance of worshipfull lords and othre persones by whoos help strength and avises he may sette downe the said misgovernaunts and rebuke theim that wold bere up the contrary, Wherefore we considering that ye be a lord of this oure lande and of oure blode, knowing by experience that ye tendirly desire the welfare

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[1] *i. e.* rising.

[2] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 285.

of us and the restfull reule of oure peple, have ordeyned and made you oon of oure commissioners, desireing you hertly and nevyrthelesse charging you that ye redy your self to accompany and assiste oure said right entierly welbeloved cosin and suche othre as we have made commissioners w^t^ hym and you and put you in youre full devoire as oure truste is ye will for the redressing of the said full unfitting governaunce and mysreule, and that ye in no wise forbere to mete w^t^ oure said entierly beloved cosyn of York at suche tyme and place as he shall sende you worde of as oure singuler trust is in you and as ye desire ye welfare of us and of this oure reaume and ye shall yeve us cause to thank you right hertly. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the v. day of Decembre, the yere &c. xxxiiij.

Cosins
- To oure right trusty and welbeloved cosin th'Erle of Arundell
- Item semble to y'Erle of Wiltshire
- Item to the Lord Fithwareine
- To the Lord Seintamound

not Cosins
- Item semble to the Lord de Laware
- Item to the Lord Hungerford
- Item to the Lord Botreaux
- Item to the Lord Beauchamp
- Item to the Lord Stourton
- Item to the Lord Boneville
- Item semble lres.

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved &c. usq; ibi wherefore tunc sic, We write unto you at this tyme and semblably to divers othre oure true subgetts men of gode birth and havour

hertly desiring and also charging you that ye will awate upon oure said entierly welbeloved cosin and assiste hym and suche othre as we have made oure commissioners in executing oure comission and commaundement as oure singuler trust is in you and as ye desire the welfare of us and of this oure reame and yeve us cause to thanke you right hertly. Yeven as above.

To &c.

- John Lysle
- Henry Bruyn
- Edmond Hungerford
- John Seymour
- John Beynton
- Will Stourton
- Theobald Gorge
- Walter Rodeney
- Robert Veer
- John Denham
- Philip Courteney
- William Powlette
- Thomas Seymour
- Baldewyne Fulford

} Knightes

- John Audeley
- James Loterell
- John Arundell

} Squiers

Die anno et loco prædictis Rex de avisamento Consilii sui voluit et mandavit quod Custos privati sigilli sui litteras seperatim sub eodem sigillo fieri faciat secundum tenores prædictos personis supranominatis dirigend', et alias cum caudis albis secundum quod videbitur expediens.

T. Kent.

(*In dorso.*) John Bodregan
ye Shyerief of Somersett
To Alexander Hodey
John Folleol
John Fitz James
and xxvj. w^t^ blank tailles.

[*Ibid.* art. 153. Letter from the King to Hugh Louther, esquire, 9th December, 34 Hen.VI. 1455.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, Sith ye be named by us and our Counsaill and other according to ye lawes and ordenaunces of this oure reaume to be shirrief of oure countee of Cumbreland for this yere, we have for your favour directed a Dedimus potestatem to oure trusty and welbeloved Thomas Nevyll knight to receyve your ooth and to yeve you charge of ye said occupation, We wol therefore and charge you upon the feith and ligeance that ye owe unto us and upon the payne of ij^ml^. li. that ye take ye said office upon you and not straunge you soo to doo, for we woll in no wyse admitte any excusation that ye shall leye for you, but and ye entende to ye noon takyng upon you the said occupation we shall use alle the lawefull rigour that we canne in that behalf and take you as oon of theym that not entende to ye weell of us and of this oure reaume, latyng you wite yf ye obeye this oure commaundement we shall shewe alle favour resonnable for your noon hurte in ye said office, and yf ye doo not, we wol and charge you upon ye payne above said that ye be afore us and oure Counsaill the morowe next after Saint Hillarie next commyng to understande ye causes moevyng us to hold you in no wise excused but to constrayne you to entre the said charge accor-

dyng to ye lawes of this oure lande. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ the ix. day of Decembre the yere &c. xxxiiij$^{ti}$.

Rex de avisa$^{to}$ Consilii sui voluit et mandavit quod Custos privati sigilli sui ſras sub eodem sigillo fieri faceret sc̃dm tenorem prædict̃. } T. Kent.

To our trusty and welbeloved Hugh Louther squyer ye elder.

T. Cant
W. Wynt̃ R. York
W. Elien̄ R. Warrewyk R. Salisbury
W. Faucomberg Bourgchier
Seudeley Stourton

[*Ibid.* art. 154. Petition to the King and Council, with the Answer, 10th December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

To the Kyng oure soverayne lorde and to his discrete Lordes of his Counsell.

Shewez unto youre highnesse youre humble servant John Stanhope squyer late shirriff of the countes of Notingham and Derby howe that divers personez the whiche have ben shiriffez before him have ben charget in your eschequier with grete and notable sōmez of certayn revenewez and profitez commyng of and in the saide countez, the whiche of mony yerez a goon were not levable ne paieable, the which was to the grete hurt and undoyng to such persones as have occupiet before youre saide servaunt hade not youre gode grace ben shewet to thaym by youre gracious letters of pardone, that is to wite, to Thomas Staunton iiij$^{xx}$. li. Nicoll Fitzherberd

iiij$^{xx}$. li. and Robert Strelley iiij$^{xx}$. li. and to suche personnes that have accomptet sithen, to iche persone iiij$^{xx}$. li. Please hit youre highnesse by the avise of youre Counsaill to considre the premissez and over that to considre how that youre saide servant in the saide office has had gret charge and expenses as in gaderyng and taking with hym grete people opon his owne costez to come to youre sessions of Oyer and Terminer holden at Chestrefelde and at Derby in sopporting of youre justices and youre officers there, and divers tymez commyng with moche people to holde youre shires to resist suche people as was not wele disposed, and in riding with moche people on his owne costez in executing of his office because the people is wilde, also in assembling of ccc. personez by vertue of letters of prive seal to him directe for the rescowez of youre towne of Berwik, the wheche ccc. personez youre saide servant brought to the towne of Doncastre to him right grete costez and chargez where youre said servant had word of withdraght of youre adversariez fro youre towne of Berwik of youre . . . . . by the advise youre Counsaill to pardon relesse and quieclame unto ye said John Stanhope c. li. of the sūmez of money fermez issuez or dettez wherof he is or shall be charget agayne you in his accompt at eschequier and theropon to adresse you gracious letters of prive seal unto youre Tresorer and Barons of your saide eschequier commaundyng thaym to discharge youre saide suppliaunt of the seide c. li. and him and his heyrez and his executours make quiete and discharget ayenst you and your heyrez for evermore moost gracious soverayne lorde for the love of God and by way charite.

(*In dorso.*) Rex apud Westm̃ x°. die Decembris anno regni sui xxxiiij. de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli fieri facere litteras Thes̃ et Baronibus scac-

carii sui de exonerando infrascriptum supplicantem sūme iiij$^{xx}$. li. in compoto suo coram vicecom̄ ratione officii sui reddendo secundum tenorem infra specificatum. Præsentibus Dominis Cant̄ et Ebor̄ Archiepiscopis Warwic̄ Sar̄ Wigorn̄ Comitibus Thes̄ Angliæ Priore Sancti Johannis Sudeley et Stourton ac aliis.

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Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 337. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 11th December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

Rex om̄ibz ad quos p̄sentes l̄re p̄venint, sal̄m. Sciatis q̄d cum nos undecimo die Novembr̄ ultimo p̄t̄ito de assensu Consilii n̄ri p̄ eo q̄d nos Parliamento n̄ro quod nono die Julii ultimo p̄t̄ito apud palaciū n̄rm Westm̄ tenuim⁹ ⁊ tricesimo primo die Julii tunc p̄x̄ sequen̄ usq; ad duodecimū diem Novembr̄ ultimo p̄t̄itum ad palaciū n̄rm p̄d̄cm̄ progavim⁹ ⁊ adjornavim⁹ ob c̄tas justas ⁊ r̄onabiles causas in p̄sona n̄ra int̄esse non possim⁹ de circumspecc̄oe ⁊ industria carissimi consanguinei n̄ri Ric̄i ducis Ebor̄ plenam fiduciam reportantes eidem consanguineo n̄ro ad Parliamentum p̄d̄cm̄ noīe n̄ro tenend̄ ⁊ in eodem p̄cedend̄ ⁊ ad faciend̄ om̄ia ⁊ singula que p̄ nob̄ ⁊ p̄ nos p̄ bono regimine ⁊ gub̄nac̄oe regni n̄ri Angl̄ ⁊ alior̄ d̄nior̄ n̄ror̄ eidem regno n̄ro p̄tinen̄ ibidem forent faciend̄, necnon ad Parliamentum illud finiend̄ ⁊ dissolvend̄ plenam c̄omiserim⁹ potestatem p̄ut in l̄ris n̄ris patentib̄z inde confcis plenius continet̄. Nos jam ob c̄tas varias ⁊ notabiles causas nos ⁊ d̄cm̄ Consiliū n̄rm sp̄ali⁹ moventes de avisamento ⁊ assensu ejusdem Consilii n̄ri dam⁹ ⁊ c̄omittim⁹ p̄fato consanguineo n̄ro plenam potestatem̄ ⁊ auctoritatem ad Parliamentum p̄d̄cm̄ p̄ nob̄

ꝛ noĩe [ñro] ꝯciodecimo die instantis mensis Decembr̃ usq; ad quartum decimū diem Januarij ꝑx̃ futur̃ ꝛ ad đcm palaciū ñrm Westm̃ ꝓrogand̃ ꝛ adjornand̃ ac Parliamentum illud ad diem illum ꝛ extunc tenend̃ ac in eodem ꝑcedend̃ ꝛ ad faciend̃ om̃ia ꝛ singula que ꝑ nob̃ ꝛ ꝑ nos ꝑ bono regimine ꝛ gub̃nac̃oe regni ñri ꝑđci ꝛ alioꝝ đnioꝝ ñroꝝ eidem regno ñro ꝑtiñ ibidem fuint̃ faciend̃, necnon ad Parliamentum illud finiend̃ ꝛ dissolvend̃. Dantes ulꝯius de assensu ejusdem Consilii ñri tam univꝯsis ꝛ singulis archiep̃is ep̃is ab̃b̃ibꝫ prioribꝫ ducibꝫ comitibꝫ vicecomitibꝫ baronibꝫ ꝛ militibꝫ qᵃm om̃ibꝫ aliis quoꝝ inꝯest ad Parliamentum ñrm ꝑđcm conventur̃ tenore ꝑsenciū firmiꝯ in mandatis q̃d eidem consanguineo ñro intendant in ꝑmissis in forma ꝑđca. In cujus ꝛc.

T. Cant' R. York
W. Eboꝝ H. Bukinghᵃm
T. London' R. Warrewyk R. Salisbury
W. Wynton'
Joh'e Roffens
W. Norwicen'
J. Lincoln' R. Dunelmēf
W. Elien' Gilb't⁹ Abbas de Bardney
P. Wygorn' Joh' Abbas Thorney
J. Herefordēi
Arundell Reginald⁹ Cicestren'
Oxenford' Joh' Abbas de Bury Sc̃i Ed'i
J. Worcestre R. Sc̃i Joh'is
Ric̃ Abbas de Bello
J. Prior Covētr' Will'm's Abbas Cirencestrie
Will' Abb' Abendon'
W. Faucomberge
Bourgchier
Fitz Waryn
Berners Seudeley Stourton'

In palac̃o suo Westm̃ undecimo die Decembris anno ℞c$^{a}$. xxxiiij$^{o}$. Rex de avisa$^{to}$ Consilii sui mandavit Custodi p$^{i}$vati sigilli sui fieri facere ℔as sub eod̃e sigillo Cancellar̃ dirigend̃ mandando eid̃e quatinus sub magno sigillo fieri faciat ℔as patentes sc̃dm tenorem sup$^{a}$script̃. Dñis subscribentib$^{3}$ ut patet.

T. Kent.

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[Additional MS. 4611. art. 149. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Garrison of Calais, 13th December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

By the King.

Trusty and welbeloved, Upon suete made unto us and oure Counsaill not longe agoo, specially by Robert Pryncethorp in youre name and for you, we tenderly consideryng the necessatee that ye stode in, sought alle ye meanes we code for youre relief and purveyed w$^{t}$ greet difficultee suche wayes as were possible unto us and there upon wrote oure letters to oure right trusty and welbeloved the lordes Welles and Ryvers and you, remembryng alle at large suche things as was thought unto us and oure Counsaill necessarie to calle to your mends, declaryng also what purveance we had made for you, willyng you to have acertaigned us in alle goodly haste of youre agrement to ye same, to y'entent that oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Warrewyk might have received oure towne and castell yat ye be in, the whiche oure wille and desire we canne not thinke but y$^{t}$ ye woll applie you to consideryng the greet laboure and diligence that hath been doon for ye said purveaunce and y$^{t}$ it is right notable and greet, Not w$^{t}$standyng we be not

yet acertaigned by any writing from you of youre said aggrement and acceptyng oure saide ordenances but dayly have awayted and yet doo upon youre answere the whiche we truste shalbe to oure plesire. And alle thaugh certayne letters writen in hast as we suppose were sent unto us by the saide lords yet sith they came not from you we canne not be asiethed yere w^t^, insomoche as we desired to have hadde answere from you and as yet noon have hadde. For somoche we eftsones write unto you willyng y^t^ sith we takyng you alle waye as oure true and lovyng subgitts have be youre good and gracious soverain lord and y^t^ nature compelleth you to be true and kynde unto us and to entende to doo us plesire, that at this tyme ye confourme you to oure wille in acceptyng oure saide provisions, the whiche shalbe trewly observed and kept, and yf there be any musyng for yat we in oure other said letters specified noo tyme w^t^in the which ye sholde have xx^ti^. m^l^. marc̃, we wol ye wite that ye shalbe content therof fully w^t^in xx. dayes after oure said cousin of Warwik his commises or deputes be entred into the charge of oure said towne and castell. And as touching the acte made for you in this oure present Parlement[1], oure full will is that ye shall rejoyce it in lyke fourme as it was made, that is to say, ye to have the hoole port of Sandwich and the nobill of every sacke through alle this oure lande and the saide acte to be engrossed in as ample and seure fourme as canne be thought good by ye lords to whom auctorite is committed, this is oure will and so shall it be what soo ever conceyte be take of oure furst writyng. And where as some paraventure ymagyne they shall lyghtly be remoeved and put out of wages, we knowe for certayne oure saide cousyn of Warwyk is disposed

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 295-300.

soo to demeane hym towards you y^t^ by reason ye shall have no cause to groutche, and to y'entent that he may by his discretion ye better favoure and provyde for you and for ye more suertee of oure saide towne we be agreed that he shall have besyde the ordenarie ccc. men in wages. Alle yees things above considered ye have noo cause to entende to any governaunce the whiche should hurte us and oure subgitts but rather w^t^ good will applye you for youre well to oure desires and plesere and in no wyse doo any thing the whiche might be to ye rejoyssyng of oure enemies and oure slaundre as oure trust is ye woll not. And yf ye for suche myserye as ye stode in any thing have otherwyse attempted than youre part was to doo, we shalbe redy to forget it w^t^ that ye shewe you at this tyme oure true and loveyng subgitts in acceptyng oure saide appointements and receyvyng oure saide cousin of Warrwyk for oure capitaigne of oure saide towne and castell, obeying hym w^t^ alle honeur and worshipp accordyng to his bloode and astate. And in cas ye doute or feere any thing of rigoure to be doo to you or any of you hereafter for any disobeyissaunce or offence doon by you or any of you ayenst oure commaundements or otherwyse, we late you wite ye shall have oure letters of pardon and grace for you in y^t^ behalf in sufficeant and ample fourme. Yeven &c.

To our trusty and welbeloved the soldeours of oure towne of Caleys.

T. Cant̃ R. York̃ H. Bukingham
W. Ebor̃
T. Londoñ R. Warrewyk
W. Wyntoñ R. Salisbury
W. Norwicen̄ J. Worcestre
J. Lincoln̄ R. Sc̄i Johis

W. Elieñ
Joñes Roff

W. Faucomberg
Stourton
Bourgchier

xiij°. die Decembris anno &c. xxxiiij^to^. apud Westm̃ Rex de avisamento sui Consilii voluit et mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui quod fieri faciat litteras sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem suprascript̃. Præsent̃ dominis subscribentibus ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 150. Letter from the King to the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, 15th December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved. Ye undrestande right wel that for grete causes and considerations concernyng the wele of us oure landes and subgettes we ordeyned this oure present Parlement to be assembled, and directed unto you as a lorde of this oure reame, oure writte charging you to come to oure said Parlement and willed you to have entended to ye same, trustyng ye wold so have doon according to youre dutee. And for the furthering of suche maters as ben ful necessarie to be provided fore for the gode and politique reule of this oure lande and the keping and bereing up of oure astate, notwithstandinge ye have forborne youre attendaunce to oure saide Parlement beyng absent at youre plesire, not taking to hert so tenderly ye wele of us as we supposed ye wolde have doo, For somoche we wolle and charge you that puttyng aside all excusations ye come and be at oure palois of Westm̃ the xiiij. day of January next commyng tliere to entende w^t^ othre upon oure said

Parlement to the whiche day we have prorogued the same, latyng you wite if ye doo not soo we shall not oonly be displesed w^t^ you but ye and all othre that come not shall renne into like paynes or gretter as have ben in oure afore this tyme and leide upon suche as have absented theim and forborn to come to oure Parlement for the tyme beyng. Yeven &c. at Westm̃.

To &c. The Bisshop of Bath and Wells
The Bisshop of Bangore
The Bisshop of Carliell
The Bisshop of Chichestr̃
The Bisshop of Herford
The Bisshop of Salesbury
The Bisshop of Worcestre
The Bisshop of Saint David
The Bisshop of Chestre
The Bisshop of Saint Assaph

To &c. th'Abbots of
Pieterburgh
Colchestre
Bury S. E.
Abendon
Waltham
Saint Albones
Berdney
S. Benet of Hulme
Glastonbury
Croyland
Malmesbury
Shrovesbury
Cirncestre
Westm̃
Thorney
Evesham

Ramsey
Priour Coventr̃
Reding̃
Saint Mary of York

The Duc of Norff

To &c. th'Erles of
Richemounde
Penbroke
Northumberlande
Devonshire
Arundell
Westmerlande
Shrovesbury
Wiltshire

To &c. the Lordes of
Ferrers of Groby
Berkley
Hungerford
Graistōk
Botreaux
Daore
Beauchamp
Audeley
Cromewell
Scrope of Massam
Zouche of Haryngworth
Bergeveny
Scales
Gray Wilton
Bonvile
Vessey
Roos
Gray de Rugemond

Saint Amounde
Duddeley
Latymer
Willughby
Say
Gray Codnore
Delaware
Straunge

*In dorso.* Quinto decimo die Decembris anno &c. xxxiiij. Rex de avisamento Consilii apud Westm̃ voluit et mandavit quod Custos privati sigilli sui litteras fieri faciat sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem infrascript̃, Dominis infrascriptis dirigendas.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* art. 151. Petition to the King, with the Answer, 16th December, 34 Hen. VI. 1455.]

To the King oure soverain lorde and to the right wise and discret lordes of his Counsaill.

Please it youre noble and benigne grace to graunte to your humble bedwoman Alianore duchesse of Somerset your several gracious letters patentes undre youre grete seal in due fourme after the cours of your . . . . . .

Rex omnibus ad quos &c. salutem, Sciatis quod nos de gratia nostra speciali concessimus Alianoræ ducissæ Somerset̃ ducentas libras per annum pro annua sustentatione Henrici filii et hæredis Edmundi nuper Ducis Somerc̃ defuncti percipiend̃ . . . . . .

. . . . . .
ibidem pro tempore existeñ ad festa Paschæ et Sancti Michaelis Arcĥi per æquales porciones Concessimus insuper eidem Duçissæ quod si præsentes litteræ nostræ sibi in hac parte facť quoad præmissa invalide existant seu existere contigerint infuturř . . . . . .
. . . . . .
eidem Ducissæ tot et talia litteras nostras patentes ac breve sive brevia nostra et hæredum nostrorum sub magno sigillo nostro vel hæredum nostrorum fieri fac̃ de tempore in tempus absq; prosecuť aliqua inde penes nos vel hæredes nostros faciend̃ quot et qu . . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .

[*Ibid.* art. 152.]

Rex omnibus ad quos &c. salutem. Sciatis quod de gratia nostra speciali concessimus carissimæ consanguineæ nostræ Alianoræ Ducissæ Somerš nuper uxori carissimi consanguinei nostri Edmundi nuper Ducis Somerc̃ defuncti qui de nobis tenuit in capite die quo obiit quod ipsa de . . . . . .
. . . . . advocaťecclesiarum prioratuum cantariarum franchesiis libertatibus annuitatibus hereditamentis et aliis possessionibus quibuscumq; cum pertineñ quibuscumq; com̃i Angliæ ac in Wallia et in marcĥ ejusdem necnon in villa nostra Caleš de quibus prædictus nuper Dux fuit seisitus in . . . . . .
. . . . . nostris seisiť vel seisiend̃ per mortem dicti nuper viri sui sive vigore alicujus inquisitionis virtute alicujus brevis nostri vel brevium nostrorum de Diem clausit extremum seu alterius inquisitionis vel brevis

aut alicujus alterius mandati nostri seu alī capt̄ vel capiend̄ et in Cancellar̄ nostram reto . . . . . unde præfata Ducissa per leges nostras dotabilis existit post quamcumq̄ inquisitionem in dictam Cancellariam nostram inde retornat̄ vel retornand̄ vel alio speciali modo sive generali liberationem dotis suæ sibi per et post mortem præfati nuper viri sui aliquo modo spectant̄ percellatim et perticulatim . . . . . exitibus proficuis et commoditatibus de quibuscumq̄ possessionibus quæ sibi in dotem assignari debent seu contingerent provenientibus a tempore mortis præfati nuper viri sui pro termino vitæ suæ absq̄ aliquo inde nobis reddend̄ et quod liber hujusmodi perticularis et seperalis ac seperatim et per vices seperales ut . . . . . liberatio inde præfatæ Ducissæ per nos secundum cursum Cancellar̄ nostræ fact̄ existerent eo quod expressa mencio de vero valore annuo castrorum dominiorum maneriorum villarum terrarum tenementorum reddituum serviciorum hundredorum cōmoditat̄ feod̄ advocat̄ ecclesiarum prio . . . . . et aliarum possessionū quarumcumq̄ prædict̄ cum pertinentiis aut aliqua concessione præfatæ Ducissæ per nos ante hæc tempora fact̄ in præsentibus fac̄ non existit aut aliquo statuto ordinat̄ restrictione actu vel mandato in contrarium fact̄ sive habit̄ non obstant̄. Concessimus insuper eidem Ducissæ quod si præsentes litteræ sibi in hac parte fact̄ quæ existere contigerint infutur̄ sive aliquas obscuritates sive difficultat̄ in eisdem reperiri seu accidere contigerit tunc Cancellar̄ noster Angliæ pro tempore existens eidem Ducissæ tot et talia litteras nostras patentes ac breve sive brevia nostra vel hæredum nostrorum sub magno sigillo nostro vel hæredū nostrorum fieri faciat de tempore in tempus faciend̄ quot et qualia eidem Du-

cissæ in hac parte necessaria fuerint et oportunum. In cujus rei &c.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| T. Cant̄ | R. Warrewyk | H. Salisbury |
| T. Londoñ | | Bourgchier |
| | R. Sc̄i Joh̄is | W. Fawcomberge. |

(*In dorso.*) xvj°. die Decembris anno &c. xxxiiij^to^. apud Westm̄ Rex de avisamento Consilii sui concessit hanc billam voluitq; et mandavit quod Custos privati sigilli sui warrant̄ fieri faciat sub eodem sigillo Domino Cancellario Angliæ dirigend̄ ad faciend̄ litteras patentes sub magno sigillo in forma prædicta, Dominis se subscribentibus ut patet.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F. XIII. f. 36. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, 24th January, 34 Hen. VI. 1456.]

To the Kynge oure sov̄aigne lorde.

Rex om̄ib; ad quos &c. sal̄tm. Sciatis q̄d cum dilc̄us clicus ñr Will̄s Scrop̄ utriusq; juris bacallarius h̄ens ex concessione ñra custodiam hospit̄lis Sc̄i Leonardi in civitate ñra Ebor̄ cum suis jurib; & p̄tiñ univ̄sis p̄ut in l̄ris ñris patentib; inde confectis plenius continet^r^ in voluntate existat, l̄ras illas nob̄ in Cancellar̄ ñram restituere ibidem cancelland̄ ad intenc̄oem q̄d nos custodiam p̄d̄cam p̄dil̄co consanguineo ñro Mag̃ro Georgio Nevylle clico concedere dignarem^r^, Nos de avisamento & assensu Consilii ñri ac p̄ eo q̄d p̄d̄cus Will̄s l̄ras p̄d̄cas nob̄ in Cancellar̄ ñram p̄d̄cam restituit cancelland̄ dedim^9^ & con-

cessim⁹ p̄đco consanguineo ñro custodiam hospit̄lis Sc̄i Leonardi in civitate [ñra] Eboꝝ ⁊ ħenđ cum suis juribꝫ ⁊ ꝑtiñ quibuscumq̧. In cujus ⁊c.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| T. Cant' | R. York | J. Worcestre |
| W. Eboꝝ | H. Bukingh^a^m | Wylteshire |
| W. Wynton' | R. Warrewyk | Beaumont |
| R. Dunelmēf | R. Salisbury | Dacre |
| W. Norwicen' | Talbot | W. Faucomberge |
| R. Coven' ⁊ Lich' | J. Oxenford' | R. Sc̄i Joh'is |
| W. Elien' | Edward | Scrop' |
| | | Stourton' |

*In dorso.* xxiiij^to^. die Januar̄ a^o^ ⁊c. xxxiiij^to^. Rex de avisamento Concilii sui apud Westm̄ mandavit q̄d Custos p^i^vati sigilli sui warantū fieri faceret sub eođm sigillo Cancellario . . . . . dirigenđ ad facienđ . . . . . sub . . . . . sigillo . . . . . script̄ ⁊ Dñis se subscribentibꝫ ut patet.

T. Kent.

[*Ibid.* f. 39. 30th January, 34 Hen. VI. 1456.]

Salutem cum dilecc̄oe sincera ⁊ Cum dominus ñr Rex nuꝑ capta fidelitate Will̄i Stapiltoñ fil̄ ⁊ heredis Joħis Stapiltoñ militis defuncti eidem đno Regi ꝑ om̄ibꝫ t̄ris ⁊ teñ que p̄đcus Joħes tenuit de p̄fato đno ñro Rege in capite die quo obiit debita ac homagio ip̄ius Will̄i eidem đno ñro Regi in ea parte similit̄ debito ꝑ quodam fine đco đno ñro Regi soluto in hanaꝑio suo usq̧ c̄tum diem jam futur̄ respectuato eidem Will̄o t̄ras ⁊ teñ illa cum ꝑtiñ reddiderit eaq̧ sibi mandav̄it lib̄ari sicut ꝑ inspecc̄oem rotuloꝝ Cancellar̄ ip̄ius đni ñri Regis plene liquet ꝑ quod idem Will̄s ad homagium suū p̄đcm eidem đno ñro Regi ut tenet^r^ facienđ ꝑsonalit̄ ad vos venit ⁊ placeat vob̄ ip̄m Will̄m p̄fato đno ñro Regi p̄sentare ut capto

homagio suo p̄đco ult̄ius inde significet velle suū. Script̄ Londoñ xxx. die Januarii.

STANLEY CHAMB̄LEYN.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The Kyng hath̄ takeñ this homage the furst day of Feverer the xxxiiij. yere of his regne. | p Custodem rotuloꝝ Cancellar̄ đni ñri Regis. | Dat̄ ap^d Westm̄ iij^o. Februar̄ anno ꝯc. xxxiiij^o. |

[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. XIV. f. 522. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to several knights and esquires in Kent, dated 8th June, 34 Hen. VI. 1456.]

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved. For thease of oure trewe and feith̄full̄ subgittꝭ specially thinhabitauntꝭ of oure shire of Kent and for punicioñ of the . . . . . to breke oure lawes and to usurpe to offende us and trouble oure peas. we have by thavis of oure Counsaill̄ graunted̄ and made a cōmission of Oyer and Determyner to certayne lordꝭ of oure bloode oure juggꝭ and other. and ordeigned̄ that they shall̄ holde a sessioñ at the towne of Maydestoñ w^t in the said̄ shire oñ Twysday next comyng. For somoche we wol and charge you that ye entende upoñ oure said̄ commissioners at þat tyme w^t alle favo^r and assistence that lyeth̄ in you. helpyng to alle the weel that may growe by the procedyng in the said̄ sessioñ as oure truste is ye wol sith̄ God̄ hath̄ endued̄ you w^t suche discrec̄on that ye wote wherin resteth̄ the welefare of us oure lande and thease of oure subgittꝭ. latyng you wite yf ye putte you effectuelly in

yor devoire at this tyme in the thingt abovesaid ye shal yeve us cause to thanke you right hertely and to shewe us unto you youre right good and gracious soveraigne lord. Yeven &c. at Westm the viij^th. day of Juyn the yer &c. xxxiiij^th.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| . William Pecche<br>. Thomas Browne | Knightt | . Robt Horn<br>. John Fogge<br>. John Elis | |
| . Thomas Ballard<br>. John Warner<br>. Willia Cressell<br>. Willia Isle<br>. Ric Waller<br>. Willia Hexstale<br>. Richard Bruyn<br>. John Clifford<br>. Alex Clifford<br>. Walt Culpep<br>. Alex Iden<br>. Raaf Selenger<br>. Willia Darell<br>. Willia Maris<br>. John Thornebury | Squiers | . Thomas Fereby<br>. Henry Etewell<br>. Nichs Sibile<br>. Chicthe of Balnerlee<br>. John Rop<br>. Edmunde Rope<br>. John Martyn<br>. William Swan<br>. Richard Culpeper<br>. Willia Culpep<br>. John Clerc<br>. Thomas Pympe<br>. Thomas Cobham<br>. Edmunde Chertsey | F<br><br><br><br><br>F |
| . John Saintcler<br>. John Gildeford<br>. Henry Angier<br>. William Manston<br>. Thomas Saint Nicholas<br>. John Isaak<br>. John Digge<br>. John Scotte | Squiers | . John a Rowe<br>. John Husee<br>. Nichs Brokehill<br>. Thomas Horn<br>. Nichs Wotton<br>. Robt Somey<br>. Thomas Betenham<br>. Will Hilles | B |

. Edmunde Wikꝭ
. Morgan Meredith̄
. Stephen Betenhᵃm
. Joh̄n Hamptoñ } B
. Richard̄ Lewknore
. Rob̄t Drilonde
. Richard̄ Drilond̄
. Will̄ Nortoñ de Sheldwich̄
. Stephen Nortoñ
. Joh̄n Nortoñ
. Joh̄n . . . . .
. R . . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. Joh̄n Septfans
. Thomas Loverik
. Edward̄ Mill̄
. Edward̄ Barry

Anno mense die et loco predict̄ Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui l̄ras fieri fac̄e sub eod̄m sigillo ꝑsonis predictꝭ direct̄ secundū tenorem suprascript̄. } T. Kent.

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo quinto.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. iii. f. 101. *Original.*

Letter from the King's Chamberlain, conveying his Majesty's commands to the Chancellor, between the 27th September and 1st October, 35 Hen.VI. 1456.]

Right worshipfull ꝺ I certifie you that the Abbot of Grymesby hath done his feau*te* and homage to the Kyng our̃ sovaigñ lorde at Coventre the xxvij. day of Septembre the yere of his reigne the xxxv^tith^ Wherfore the Kyng woll that ye do make lres acordyng to the custome for the restitucioñ of his tempalties.

T. Lord Stanley
Chamb̃leyn de Roy.

Lr̃e her̃upoñ was maad̃ þe first day of Octobr̃ þe xxxv. yer̃ ꝛc.

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## Acta de Anno Tricesimo sexto.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 338. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, 29th November, 36 Hen.VI. 1457.]

By the King.

R. H.[1]

Moost reverende fader in God our̃ righ̃t trusty [ꝛt righ̃t] welbeloved cousin ꝺ For greet causes suche as concerned the wele of us and of our̃ landꝭ we assembled a Grete Counsaill at our̃ paloys of Westm̃ this terme nowe passed and ther̃ in our̃ owñ persone have entended for the direcc̃on of the said matiers with̃ suche other̃ . . . . . awayted upon us and our̃ said̃ Counsaill. And sith̃ it is

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[1] The King's autograph.

soo that as yet we have not fully concluded nor provyded sufficiantly as the said̃ matiers askeñ and requiren for suche difficultees as we have founde in theim ⸗ and of necessitee we most further̃ procede in the same or suffre the wele of our̃ land and o^r people to remayne in greet jupart ⸗ that we ne wol with̃ Godd̃ grace ⸗ We have continued our̃ said̃ Greet Counsaill̃ unto the xxvij. day of January next comyng ⸗ at whiche tyme our̃ said̃ Counsaill̃ shal eftsones assemble for further̃ proceding in the said matiers of greet poys. For somoche we wol and charge you that alle excusac̃ons leid apart ye be at our̃ said paloys the said xxvij. day of Januarye to awaite upon us and our̃ said Counsaill̃ to yeve [your̃] advis in suche matiers as shal be cōmuned in the same ⸗ levyng not this as ye desir̃ the wele of us and this o^r reaume ⸗ latyng you wite we shall̃ have nooñ excused of his comyng to our̃ said Counsaill̃ in any wise that oweth̃ to be there. Yeveñ ꝯtc^a. at Westm̃ the xxix. day of Novembr̃ the yere ꝯtc^a. xxxvj.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| • ☙ Cantuar̃ | Archiep̃i | Bathoñ ꝯt Well̃ | |
| • Eboraceñ | | Saꝝ | |
| | | Wigorñ | |
| • ☙ Londoñ | Ep̃i | Coveñ ꝯt Lich̃ | |
| • + Wintoñ | | Meneveñ | |
| — Lincolñ | | | |
| Elieñ | | ☙ Westm̃ | |
| Bangoreñ | | Bury | |
| Carliol̃ | | Colchestr̃ | |
| Hereford̃ | | Walth^am | |
| Landaveñ | | Berdeney | |
| Roffeñ | | Selby | |
| Assaveñ | | Saint Benett̃ | |
| Exoñ | | Glastoñ | |

+ • Bataylle
Thorney
Evesh$^{a}$m
Hyde jux$^{a}$ Wintoñ
Wynchecombe
Saint Maries of
. . . . .
} Abbat̃

ϭ Abyndoñ
Redyng
Glouc̃
Surcestr̃
Ramsey
Shrovesbury
Pet̃burgħ
Malmesbury
Saint Albones
} Abbat̃

ϭ P$^{i}$or de Coventr

ϭ Eboꝝ
+ • Exoñ
Norff
Buk̃
+ • Som̃s̃
} Duces

ϭ Westm̃land̃
+ • Devoñ
+ • Salop̃
Pembroke
Oxoñ
Arundell̃
Wilts̃
} Comites

ϭ Beaumont
Bo$^{r}$gchier

+ ϭ Prior Sc̃i Joħis
Berkley
Hungreford̃
Botreaux
Dacr̃
+ • Beauchamp̃
Duddeley
Scrop̃ of Massam
Welles
Clyntoñ
Bergevenny
Cobh$^{a}$m
Scales
Clifford̃
Grey Wiltoñ
+ • Ryvers
+ • Bonevyle
Roos
Fitz Hugħ
Say
Berñs
De la Warr̃
+ • Stanley
} Barones

Zouche de Haringtoñ
Straunge
Grey Ruthyñ
Ferrers of Groby

Sudeley
Graistok
Gray Codnore
Rugemond
Scrop of Upsale
Willughby
+ Fitz Wareñ
Lovell
Stourtoñ
} Barones

Die anno & loco pdcis Rex de avisato Consilii sui voluit & mandavit Custodi p'vati sigilli sui ras sepales sub eodm sigillo fieri fac supadcis dirigendis in forma pdict. } T. KENT.

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[Additional MS. 4612. art. 26. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Earl of Arundel, 14th February, 36 Hen.VI. 1458.]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved cosin, We have assembled at this tyme at oure palois of Westm oure Grete Counsail as ye knowe well, and wende for certayn ye wold have ben there afore this as we wrote unto you ye should, considering ye grete causes for ye whiche we called oure said Counsaill, in especial to sette apart suche variaunces as ben betwixt divers lordes of this oure reaume, and blessed be Jhu ther is suche diligence done in that behalf yat we doubt not but ye saide variance shal take fruytfull conclusion as we wol in all wyse that they so doo. And for so much that ye be a

grete lorde of this oure land, and that your presence is full necessary for ye wele of the said land, we wol and charge you eftesones right straitly that in all godely hast after ye sight of thees oure letters ye adress you unto oure said Counsaill all excusations set a part, not wtstanding any licence graunted by us unto you or any oyer oure letters to the contrary, and we wol ye leve not this as ye desire to do us singuler plesir and ye welfare of this oure land. Yeven &c. at Westm the xiiij. day of Feverer the yere &c. xxxvj.

To th'Erle of Arundell.

Die anno & loco prædictis Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras fieri facere sub eodem sigillo in forma prædicta.

T. Kent.

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[*Ibid.* art. 28. Minute of the Council, 4th March, 36 Hen. VI. 1458.]

The iiij. day of Marche the yer &c. xxxvj. at London in the hous of ye Blak Freres, For asmoche as the Erle of Warwyk shulde have among other things a m^l. li. of ye part of the duchie of Lancastr beyng in feoffament for the kepyng of the see according to his endentur, and the said m^l. li. as yet is not redy money, the King by th'advis of his Counsail wolde ordeyned and graunted that v^c. li. of the money growen of ye generall pardon last graunted be delyvered to ye said Erle in party of payement to ye Clerk of the hanaper and other as shalbe necessarie for the consideration abovesaid and other touching ye wele of the King and his lande right specially, and the said somme of v^c. li. shalbe repaied of the feoffees of the saide duchie, and yus it was ordeyned and granted considering the navye of Fraunce is north-

ward y$^{t}$ it might be mette with, and for gode direction of ye Englyssh navye.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Γ. Cant̃ | R. Yorƙ | Bourgchier |
| Γ. Londoñ | T. Salisbury | Beaumont |
| W. Wintoñ | | R. Sc̃i Joħis |
| J. Lincolñ | | Berners |
| W. Elieñ | | Stanley |
| T. Assaveñ | | J. Wenlok |
| G. Exoñ | Decanus Sc̃i Severini | John Say |

[*Ibid.* art. 27. Warrant to the Keeper of the Hanaper in Chancery, annexed to the preceding article.]

Henri &c. to our trusty and welbeloved clerc Roberd Kirkeham keper of our hanaper in our chauncery greting. We by th'avis of oure Counsail for certaine causes concernyng the wel of us and this oure lande wol and charge you that ye deliver and paye unto oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Warwyk capitaigne of oure towne of Caleys v$^{c}$. l̃i. of such money as ye have receyved and is in your keping for the fee of our greet seal of oure generall pardon late graunted by us, and that ye in no wise leve this as ye desire the wellfare of us and oure reaume, and we wol that thees oure letters be unto you herein sufficeant warrant and that by the same ye have therof due allouance in your accounts. Yeven &c.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 277. *Original.*

Letter from the King to William bishop of Winchester, the Chancellor, 6th August, 36 Hen. VI. 1458.]

Henricus Dei gr̃a Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie reverendo in Xp̃o patri Will̃o Wintoñ ep̃o

Cancellario ñro salutem. Vobis mandamus q^d l̄ras ñras patentes sub magno sigillo ñro fieri faciatꝰ in forma sequenti. Rex omnibꝫ ad quos ꝛc. salt̄m. Sciatis q^d de gr̄a ñra sp̄iali concessimus dil̄co nobis Thome Havill̄ de Oxoñ bruer q^d ip̄e de cet̄o non ponatur in assisis juratꝰ attinctꝰ sive recognic̄oibꝫ aut inquisicionibꝫ aliquibꝫ licet tangant nos vel heredes ñros aut aliquam aliam personam et q^d non fiat vicecomes escaetor coronator collector aliquaꝝ quintaꝝ decimaꝝ taxaꝝ vel subsidioꝝ aut alicujus ꝑcelle eoꝝdem nobis vel heredibꝫ ñris in aliquo com̄ infra regnū ñrm Anglie concedend̄. Et ulterius de uberiori gr̄a ñra concessimus et concedimus eidem Thome pro nobis et hered̄ ñris q^d licet ip̄e ad aliquod onerum officioꝝ sive occupacionū predict̄ vel ad aliquod aliud officiū subeund̄ faciend̄ vel occupand̄ decet̄o eligatur ordinetur aut assignetur contra vim formam aut effcm presentis concessionis ñre ip̄eq̧ officia sive on̄a illa subire facere vel occupare recusaverit ea tamen occ̄one finem contemptū forisfcuram deꝑditū vel dampnū aliquod in corpore vel in bonis suis non incurrat quoquo modo. sed q^d presentes l̄re ñre de exempc̄oe ꝑ d̄cm Thomam vel aliū quemcūq̧ noīe suo coram quibuscūq̧ justic̄ ꝛt ministris ñris vel hered̄ ñroꝝ in quocūq̧ loco de recordo per totum regnū ñrm Anglie demonstrate super demonstrac̄oe illa om̄īo valeant ꝛt allocent^r eidem Thome absq̧ aliquo br̄i seu processu inde ult̄ius ꝑsequend̄ vel proclamac̄oe faciend̄. Et ideo vobis mandamus q^d ip̄m Thomam contra presentes concessiones ñras non molestetis in aliquo seu gravetis. In cujus rei ꝛc. Dat̄ sub privato sigillo ñro ap^d maneriū ñrm de Wodestoke sexto die Augusti anno regni ñri tricesimo sexto.

BENET.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 186. *Original.*
Letter from the King to several of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
26th August, 36 Hen. VI. 1458.]

REVERENT fader in God, How be it as ye know wel all the lordes and othir persones suche as be of oure Counsail owen in the terme tyme to yeve attendaunce to the same, yit for suche matiers as concerne spially oure honeure and worship, the welfare of this our land and subgitt, we write unto you that be of oure Counsail thees oure lres praying and also charging [you] that withoute any faille ye wol be atte oure paleys of Westm the xj. day of Octobr next comyng to yeve youre sadde advys in the said matiers and othir suche as shalbe treted in oure Counsail there, and this as oure parfite trust is on you. Yeven &c. at Westm the xxvj. day of August the yere &c. xxxvj.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Archiepi | Cantuar | Duk | Ebor | Prior Sci Johis | Beauch |
| | Ebor | | Buk | Gray Ruthyn | Stourtoi |
| | Londo | | Norff | Welles | Stanley |
| | Chestr | | Warwyk | Scales | f John |
| | Lincoln | | Sar | Sudeley | lok k |
| | Elien | | Oxon | Faucomberge | Decanu |
| | Sar | | Salop | Duddeley | Sevir |
| | Herford | | Wilts | Ryvers | Johes S |
| | Norwich | | Beaumont | | |
| | | | Bourgchier | | |

## ACTA DE ANNO TRICESIMO SEPTIMO.

[Additional MS. 4612. art. 50. a modern *Transcript.*
Petition to the King, 5th February, 37 Hen. VI. 1459.]

To the King oure souverain lord.

R. H.

MEKELY besecheth Rauf lord Suddeley and John lord Stourton whiche late by youre high commaundement had

the charge and kepyng of youre towne and merches of Caleys ⸗ takyng suche fees and wages as the Duc of Buckingham and other had and toke afore hym for . . . . . and other that it shall please youre highnesse to yeve in commaundement unto the Keper of youre prive seel to doo make *warrants* directed as wel to the Tresorer of Caleys for make payment unto your saide suppliants of the saide wages for especiell and other . . . . . tyme passed hath be doon to other havyng the kepyng of youre saide towne and marches as to the Tresorer and Barons of your eschequier commaundyng theym to make allouance unto the said Tresorer of Caleys of that by vertue of your warant . . . . . unto hym in this behalf he shall paye unto the saide your suppliants.

Dat̃ apud Westm̃ v^to^. die Februar̃ anno ꝯc. xxxvij^o^.

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[Cart. Antiq. Cotton. xiv. 11. *Original.*

Letter of Summons, dated 20th February, and apparently in the 37 Hen.VI. 1459, to attend a Great Council on the 1st June next following.]

R. H.[1] By the King.

Righ't trusty and welbeloved cousin ⸗ Forasmoche as we have ordeigned a Greet Counsail to begynne at o^r^ paleys of Westm̃ the seconde day of Aprill next comyng for the setting forth̃ of an ambassade to a solempne Counsail and congregac̃on of princes limited by o^r^ holy fader the Pope to begynne the furst day of Juyñ next comyng for the defense of o^r^ feith ayenst the Turkꝭ and other mescreantes ⸗ wherto o^r^ said holy fader hath̃ straitely required us and for other causes concernyng the weel of us and of this o^r^ lande ⸗ We wol therfore and charge you that ye be at o^r^ said Counsail atte the said daye and place to yeve yo^r^

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[1] The King's autograph.

sadde advis and counsail w^t other in the saide matiers, Not failling herein as ye tendre the keping and defense of o^r saide feith and the weel of us and of alle this o^r lande. Yeven &c. at Westm the xx. day of Feverer.

Anno mense die et loco predict Rex voluit et mandavit Custodi p^ivati sigilli sui fieri facere ras sub eodē sigillo dirigend omibus Dominis de Pliamento, p veniendo ad Magnum Consilium scdm tenorem sup^ascript, mutato stilo scdm qd cuiq; ptinebat &c.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F i. f. 116. b. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to the Grand Master of Rhodes, refusing permission for the Prior of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem to attend a Chapter of the Order, dated on the 19th June, 37 HenVI. 1459.]

Henricus &c^a. religiosissimo potenti et magnifico sacre religionis viro fratri Jacobo de Milly hospitalis Sci Johis Jerlm magno magro Rhodi amico ro carissimo salutem. Religiosissime, potens, et magnifice vir, non sine admiracone accepimus hiis dieb; cū magna instancia multa verba dilecti Consiliarii ri p^ioris ordinis vri in hoc regno ro Anglie, que oia magna circuicione ad hoc tendebant ut eidm Consiliario ro licencia a nobis daret^r vris mandatis obediendū fore, que ip̄m ad gen̄ale quoddam capitlm celebrandū futuris dieb; evocant. Spabamus satis in similib; dieb; p̄tit sibi dixisse et pat̄nitati vre scripsisse et illis verbis et tminis ut amplius in re tali minime vexarem^r, sed quia importuni^o q^am arbitrabam^r pulsati sum^o, hoc reven^me pat̄nitati vre responsū damus uti eidm Consiliario ro intimari fecim^o non est ra voluntas qd ipe a latere ro recedat, que res mag comodo religionis vre conducit, q^am si apud vos eum constitutū haberet, qd et sepius pat̄nitati vre significare

curavimus, non enī debet g$^{a}$vitas vra tanta solicitudine appetere quod a nobis haberi non potit, si seniū viri quem vocatis infirmitas et corpis egritudo que maxime habent$^{r}$ omnino non forent, adhuc videt$^{r}$ nobis deferrendū qui sepius scripsim$^{9}$ q̄d eundm nrm Consiliariū abesse minime paciem$^{r}$, q̄d non minus vri interest q$^{a}$m ñri si om̄ia clara mente cribrata forent. Aliis in rebus p̄rnitati vre complacere volumus dūmodo rem hanc cōmittat$^{r}$ silencio, reven$^{ma'}$q$_{3}$ p̄rnitatē vram felicius fvet Auctor omniū. Dat' tc$^{a}$. apud Westm̄ xxix$^{o}$. die Junii anno tc. xxxvij$^{o}$.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to the Chancellor of Rhodes, requesting him to desire the Grand Master to refrain from commanding the attendance of the Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, also dated on the 29th June, 37 Hen.VI. 1459.]

Henricus tc. dilecto suo Melchiori Bandin cancellario Rhodi salutem. Tua continua benevolencia et obsequia in nos et ñros sepe numero impensa invitant ut gr̄as tibi habeam$^{9}$, spe certa tenentes ille optimus tuis animis nobis dedicatus nūq$^{a}$m deficiet et quid seorsum egeris g$^{a}$tum pro ñro dilectissimo Consiliario p$^{i}$ore ordinis vri hoc Anglie regno nobis sūme placere intelligas, pro quo te hortam$^{r}$ obnixa medius apud Magnū Magrm magnope intercedas ut ab illis man$^{tis}$ sepius t$^{a}$nsmissis quib$_{3}$ eundm ñrm Consiliariū ad se evocare studuit omnino desistat, quoniam frustra ab eo agit$^{r}$ quia nequaquam a latere ñro extirpabit eundem uti sepius Iris ñris testati sum$^{9}$, tuq$_{3}$ itez eundm Magnū Magrm cerciorem de hac ñra intencione facias ne in vanū hmōi mandata conficiat in futurū. Aliis vero libencius cōplacebim$^{9}$ eidm, teq$_{3}$ valere cupimus. Dat' tc$^{a}$. ut sup$^{a}$.

[*Ibid.* Letter from the King to Sir John Langsthrother and other Englishmen in the Convent at Rhodes, likewise dated on the 29th June, 37 Hen.VI. 1459. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 356.]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloveđ ⸝ We have understande by oure righ̄t trusty and welbeloveđ counsailler the P^i^ouř of yo^r^ ordre of this o^r^ reaume that he is cōmaundeđ straitely by the Greet Maistre to come and be in his ꝑsone at a certaine gen̄all chapitre to be holdeñ at Rhodꝭ þe furst daye of Octobre next cōmyng ⸝ and thaugh̄ he be of suche age troubleđ w^t^ sikenesse and in no wise able to þe saiđ jo^r^ney yet for þe zeele he hath̄ to see the Greet Maister and convent ⸝ not remembryng his impotencie ⸝ hath̄ made greet instaunce to have o^r^ wille and licence to addresse hym to þe saiđ chapitre ⸝ þe whiche we have in no wise g^a^unteđ nor will̄ not suffre hym to departe seyng his saiđ nooñ power̄ and þ^t^ his ꝑsence is to us full̄ necessarie for many causes ⸝ wher̄for̄ we wol and charge you that ye declare þis oure wille ⸝ fro þe whiche we wol in nowise depte to þe saiđ Greet Maister and suche oꝑꝯe as ye thinke expedient ⸝ latyng theym knowe for certaine we wol in no wise suffre our̄ saiđ counsailler̄ departe oute of this o^r^ reaume to soo ferr̄ contreys ⸝ Mor̄oꝟ we wol and charge you as ye wol we shal take you for o^r^ trewe subgittꝭ that ye in noowise suffre as ferre as ye may and in esp̄iall̄ yeve noo consent to any g^a^untꝭ imposic̄ons or chargꝭ þ^t^ may be though̄t or takeñ ꝑjudiciall̄ or hurte to þ^e^ lawes of this o^r^ reaume ⸝ latyng you wite also yf we understande the contrarie we shal entende to suche punysshement of hym or theym that disobeyeth̄ us as shal be example to other. Yeveñ ꝛc. at Westm̄ the xxix. day of Juyñ the yer̄ ꝛc. xxxvij^ti^.

To o^r^ trusty and welbeloveđ ꝑ John Langstroꝑꝯe castellayñ and other of our̄ reaume of Englanđ beyng in the Convent of Rhodꝭ.

[Additional MS. 4612. art. 51. a modern *Transcript*

Warrant to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer, dated 25th July, 37 Hen.VI. 1459.]

HENRI by the grace of God King of England and of Fraunce and Lord of Irlande to the Tresorer and Chamb̄lains of our eschequyer greting ⸗ For asmoch as we have ordeigned the reverend fadre in God the Bysshop of Worcestre oure right trusty and welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Worcestre and oure right trusty and trusty and welbeloved th'Abbot of Petrebourgh̄ the Lord Duddeley Philip Wentworth knyght ooñ of oure kervers and Maistre John Laxe and other to goo in oure ambassade unto the Diete at Mantua limited by oure holy fadre the Pope ⸗ We wol and charge you that ye doo paye daily wages ⸗ that is to saie ⸗ unto the said reverend fadre v. marc̃ ⸗ to th'Abbot of Petrebourgh̄ xl. s̃. ⸗ the Lord Duddeley xl. s̃. ⸗ Sir Philip Wentworth xx. s̃. ⸗ Maistre John Laxe xx. s̃. by day for the terme of vj. monethes ⸗ and to oure said cousin th'Erle of Worcestre daily wages of v. marc̃ for a moneth ⸗ to have of oure yifte by weye of reward for the expenses and costes that thai shal have and susteigne for the cause above saide. Yeven undre oure pryve seel at oure citee of Coventre the xxv. day of Juyll̄ ⸗ the yere of oure reigne xxxvij.

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## ACTA DE ANNO TRICESIMO OCTAVO.

[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 197. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council at Canterbury, 9th August, 38 Hen.VI.1460.]

By the King.

R. H.[1]

WE wol ꝯt cōmaunde you in appeasyng of insurrecc̃ons ꝯt oþer grete riottꝭ lyke to falle in o^r countrees of Wales

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[1] The King's autograph.

ꝛ oþer marches ther̃ as it is said̃ ⸗ þat ye doo make l̃res under our̃ privie seal which̃ is in your̃ keping direct sev̊ally to þe constables [of] Beaumaryes ⸗ Conneway ⸗ Flynt ⸗ Hawardyñ ⸗ Holt ⸗ ꝛ of Ruthiñ ⸗ cōmaundyng ech̃ of þem þat þey doo kepe surely þe seid̃ places ꝛ þat þey suffre noo ꝑsones entre kepe ne fortifye any of o^r^ said̃ places wherby o^r^ peas shuld̃ be distourbed̃ in anywise ne þat þey deliv̊ hem to noo ꝑsoñ but saufly kepe hym þeirself to þe tyme þey have oþerwise in cōmaundement by o^r^ l̃res under̃ our̃ said̃ seal ⸗ and þat þei leve not þis undooñ upoñ the feyth̃ ꝛ ligeance þat þey owe unto us ⸗ and as þey wol eschewe our̃ grevous indignac̃on. Yeveñ at o^r^ citee of Caunt̊bury þe ix. day of August.

Also we wol ꝛ cōmaunde you þat ye doo make our̃ l̃res under our̃ seal aforsaid̃ direct to our̃ righ̃t trusty ꝛ entierly welbeloved̃ brother Therl of Pembroke capitayne of þe castell̃ of Denbygh̃ ꝛ to Roger̃ Pulestoñ squyer deputee to our̃ said̃ brother þer̃ cōmaundyng þeim þat where we take and accept our righ̃t trusty ꝛ righ̃t entierly welbeloved̃ cousyñ þe Duc of York our̃ approved̃ ꝛ true liege mañ and noo traytour̃ ⸗ our̃ true subget ꝛ noo rebell̃ ⸗ our̃ righ̃t faith̃ful frende ꝛ noon ennemye and þat . . . . . beñ otherwise procedet ayenst him hath̃ beñ oonly by cruell̃ ꝛ malicious exortac̃on of his mortall̃ ennemyes as by our̃ proclamac̃ons þ̊ of late made in Englonde ꝛ in Wales . . . . . l̃res under o^r^ said̃ seal more playnely it appereth̃ ⸗ þat þey [ꝛ ev̊ich̃ of þeim] in continent after þe recepc̃on of þies o^r^ l̃res doo make peasible liv̊ee of þe said̃ castell̃ to Edward̃ Bou . . . . . his deputee or assignee to þe behouf of our̃ said̃ cousyñ ⸗ any acte statute patent graunte or cōmaundement hertofor̃ made notwithstandyng ⸗ and þat þey leve not þis . . . . . ol eschewe o^r^ grevous indignac̃on ⸗ and also þat ye doo make a semblable l̃re under our̃ said̃ seal to Richard̃ Gray Lord̃ Powes to deliv̊ þe castell̃ of

Mongomerye to Wal . . . . . squyer. Yeven at our citee of Caunterbury the ix. day of August.

To or trusty & welbeloved the Keper of or prive seall.

T. Cant' G. Exon' Canc.
T. London' E. March'
R. Salisbury
J. Beauchamp J. Wenlok.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 447. *Original.*

Letter from the King to Sir William Herbert knight, Walter Devereux and Roger Vaughan esquires, dated 17th August, 38 Hen. VI. 1460.]

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved, We have understande by credible reporte made unto us nowe late, howe that dyvers persones w^oute oure wille or comaundement and expressely contrarie to oure lawes and pees, usurpe and take upon thaym to vitaille and fortifie dyvers castelles places and strengthes in oure contree of Wales and over that make grete assemblees routes and gaderyng of people in riottouswyse, wherby olesse than it were sone purveyed for the ceessyng therof grete hurte and inconvenience is like to ensewe both to oure saide contrees of Wales and to al this oure lande, that God forbede, Wherfor we in eschewing alle suche hurtes and perilles, willyng oure lawes and pees be kept and oure trewe liege people to lyve in goode reste and pees w^oute any undue vexacon or trouble, wol desire and praye and nevthelesse straitely charge you and evich of you and therto by thees oure lres yeve you ful auctoritee and power that in alle possible haste after the sight herof ye putte you in effcuel devoire and diligence by alle waies and meanes possible to you to repsse and subdue alle thoo persones of what astate condicon or degree soever thai be that in fourme

above reherced take upoñ thaym or ꝑsume to make any such gaderyngꝭ routes or assemblees or any castelles places or strengthes vitaille or fortifie in anywise. Not oonly lettyng thaim of thaire purpos in that behalf: but also puttyng suche as beñ leders pryncipall doers and stirrers of thaym in seure holde and kepinge, so to remaigne and dwelle unto the tyme ye have knowlach from us what shal be doo furthermore for thaire punysshment in that partie, olesse than ye canne wtoute daungier or perille seurely bringe or sende thaym to us, the whiche if ye maye we wol ye so doo. And moreov̄e that by youre grete pollicies and wisedom̄ and such meanes as ye thinke wol best ſve therto: ye take alle maner suche castelles places and strengthes into our̄ handes and seurely kepe thaym to oure use tyl we have ordeigned otherwise for the kepinge and rule therof. Besides this yevinḡ in straite cōmaundement on oure behalf as we so doo by thees ꝑsent lres to alle maner shirriefſꝭ maires baillieffꝭ counstables officers and alle other oure lige people in thoo contrees and ech of thaym as the cas shall require diligently to assiste favour̄ helpe and entende unto you and ev̄iche of you in the execucon of the ꝑmisses and ev̄iche of thaym, and that ye and thai ne nooñ of you faille not herein as oure parfite trust is on you and as ye desire to be recōmended of goode and diligent obeissance and to stande in oure espial favor and grace and have a singuler̄ thanke of us. Yeven̄ &c. at Westm̄ the xvij. day of August.

To oure trusty and welbeloved William Herbert knyght Waultier Deveros and Rogier Vaghañ squyers and to everich of thaym.

T. Cant' Bourgchier — G. Exon' Cancell' — R. Sci Joh'is — R. Salisbury — Fitz Waryn — Decan' Sci Severini

[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 476. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 22nd August, 38 Hen. VI. 1460.]

HENR', To all thoo that shall here or see thees present[e] greting, For asmoche as our cousin John Nevill knight and Isabell his wif have be possessed of div[s] manoirs and lordship[s] with their appurtenaunc[e] in div[s] shires of this our land unto the tyme of our last Parlement holden at Coventre, the which our cousin and his wif we holden as our true ligis and subgitt[e], any acte statute or ordinaunce made in the said Parlement notwithstanding[1], We wol therfor and charge you and ev[i]che of you straitly, that all excusac[o]ns ceessing, ye suffre our said cousin and his wif and either of them and their deputees and assignees to have and rejoyce ev[i]che of the said manoirs and lordship[s] with their appurtenaunc[e] and thissues profit[e] revenues and c[o]moditees of the same as they had and rejoysed before the said Parlement, the said acte statute or ordynaunce notwithstanding, And furthirmor we wol and charge you that anoon aftir the sight of thees, all suche dutees and arrerag[e] of the said manoirs and lordship[s] as beth in yo[r] hand[e] ye delivre hem to the said deputees and assignees withoute any lenger delay, And we wol that ye ne noon of you leve this upon the feith and ligeaunce that ye and ev[i]che of you owe unto us. Yeven &c. at Westm the xxij. day of August the yere &c. xxxviij.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| G. EXON' C[an]c | R. SALISBURY | BOURGCHIER |
| R. Sci JOH'IS | DECAN[us] Sci SEVERINI | |
| | J. WENLOK' | JOHN SAY |

(*In dorso.*) Anno mense die & loco infrascript Rex de avisa[to] sui Consilii mandavit Custodi p[ri]vati sigilli sui fieri facere tras sub eod sigill & . . . . . infrascript, p[re]ntib[us] Dñis se subsc[ri]bent ut patet.

LANGPORT.

[1] *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 348, 349, 387, 388.

## Acta de Anno Tricesimo nono.

[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F. xiii. f. 41. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 11th November, 39 Hen. VI. 1460.]

Henri &c. to the Tresorer and Chamblains of or eschequier greting. We wol and charge you that unto Maistre George Holland whom we have charged wt certaine matiers to passe in to the parties beyonde the see, ye do paye of or Tresore the sōme of x. li. to have of or yifte by way of reward for his cost and expensis in þt partie. Yeven &c. at Westm the xj. day of Novēbr the yere &c. xxxix.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| T. Cant' | R. Warrewyk | Stanley |
| G. Exon' Canc | R. Salisbury | J. Wenlok |
| W. Elien' | J. Duddeley | Stourton' |

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian. C. xiv. f. 524. *Original.*

Letters from the King to the Earl of Arundel, Lords Cobham, Abergavenny, Dacre, Delawarr, several knights, sheriffs, mayors, bailiffs, and other persons, dated 28th January, 39 Hen. VI. 1461.]

By the Kyng.

Righ't trusty and welbeloved Cousin. For asmoche as we have certayne knowlach that thoo mysruled and outerageous people in the north parties of this reaume been cōmyng towardes thees pties to the destruccon therof, of you, and subversioñ of alle our lande, We wol and straitely charge you that in all possible haste with alle the defensible nombr of people that ye can of oure shires of Sussex and Hampshire accordyng to our cōmissioñ late in this partie directed to you, ye cōme

and entende upon̄ us for the resistence subduyng and repressinge of the said̄ outerageous people and thaire malice, considering that we dispose us forthward̄ in alle we can, not faillyng as ye love and tendre oure honnor and weel and the seuretee and welfare of yor self and of alle this our̄ saide lande. Yeven̄ &c. at oure citee of London̄ the xxviij. day of January, the yere &c. xxxix.

To or right trusty and welbeloved̄ cousin Therle of Arundell̄

Item semble ̄res mutat̄ mutand̄

To the Lord̄ Cobham
To the Lord̄ Bergevenny
To Robert Horn̄
To John Fogge
To John Scotte
To John Gyldford̄
To John Digḡ
To William Hault
To the Shirrief

} Kent

Shirriefs̄ { Wiltshire; Oxonford̄ / Berkshire; Essex Hertford̄ }

To the Justices of pees of Cambrigge and Huntyngdon̄
To þe Shirrief of Rutland̄
To þe Shirrief of Stafford̄
To þe Shirrief of Norff & Suff

} With̄ this clause, Ye drawe you the next weye toward̄ or hoost and entende with̄ thaym for.

By the Kyng.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved, Sith it is so that thoo mysruled and outerageous people in the north parties of this reaume been comyng hiderward as it is saide for certayne entending aswell the destruccon of you and othr oure trewe subgitt and utter subversion of alle our lande, whiche we in no wise wol suffre, We forsomoch wol and in the straitest wyse charge you that in alle possible haste, ye accompaigned with alle the myght and multitude of defensible people that ye can make, come and entende upon us for the resistence subduyng and repressing of thaire malice and purpos, consideryng that we dispose us forthward as hastely as we can, and failleth not as ye love and tendre our honor, the welfare of yor self and of alle our lande and subgitt. Yeven &c. ut sup[a].

To the Lord Dacre
To the Lord Delawarr

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, We have understande for certayne that thoo mysruled and outerageous people in the north parties of this lande been comyng hiderward purposing the utter destruccon aswell of this contre, of you, and othr oure trewe subgitt and also the subversion of the comune weel of alle this lande, the whiche we in no wyse maye nor wol suffre but defende in alle wyse, Wherfore we wol praye and nevertheless straitely charge you that in alle possible haste ye make and sende the next wey unto oure hoste alle the myght of defensible men ye canne, for the resistence subduyng and repressinge of the malice of the saide riottous people, consideryng that we in our owen psone dispose us in all the haste we can to goo forth for the

saide cause, and failleth not as our trust is on you and as ye tendre yor oweñ welfare and of alle our lande, and upoñ the faithe and ligeance ye owe unto us. Yeveñ &c. ut supa.

To the baillieffe and cōmunaltee of or towne of Saint Edmundesbury

It to þe baillieffe and cōmunaltee of or towne of Yeppeswich.

To þe maire baillieffe and cōmunaltee of our citee of Salesbury

If semble lres to þe baillieffe and cōmunaltee of or towne of Colchestr

Wt this clause, Ye make and sende unto us al þe mygt and nombre of defensible men ye can to assist and entende upoñ us for þe resistence &c.

W. Eboz R. Warrewyk Bourgchier Berners
R. Saz J. Mountagu
G. Exon' Decanus Sci Severini

# ACTS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF KING HENRY VI., THE EXACT DATES OF THE GREATER PART OF WHICH ARE NOT ASCERTAINED.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. xiv. f. 218. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, 12th July, 2 Hen. VI. 1424. This article was accidentally omitted in its proper place.]

℞ om̄ib3 ad quos ꝛc. salt̄m ⸗ Sciatis q̃d de avisamento Consilii ñri volum⁹ ꝛ ~~concessim⁹~~ [ordinavim⁹] q̃d decem milia marcaꝝ ꝑ expensis hospicii ñri in ꝛ de locis infrascriptis annuatim levent^r ⸗ videlt de cam̄ar̃ Southwall ꝛ Northwall mille marce ⸗ de wardis ꝛ maritagiis ꝛ aliis casualitatib3 mille libre ⸗ de custode ꝛ escambio monete ñre infra turrim ñram Londoñ ꝛ Eboꝝ quingente marce ⸗ de collectorib3 subsidii triū solidoꝝ de dolio ꝛ duodecim denarioꝝ de libra de alienigenis in singulis portub3 regni ñri Angl duo milia marcaꝝ ⸗ ꝛ de collectorib3 subsidii lanaꝝ in singulis portub3 regni ñri ꝑđci quinq3 milia marcaꝝ. Que quidem sūme in forma ꝑđca annuatim sic levanđ Thes̃ hospicij ñri ꝑđci ꝑ tempore existent̃ ꝑ tallias ꝛ billas ad receptam sc^a c̃ii ñri apud Westm̃ ꝑ Thes̃ Angl de tempore in tempus similit̃ levanđ ad đcas sūmas circa expensas hospicii ñri ꝑđci applicanđ libent^r ꝛ ꝑsolvant^r ⸗ Ita q̃d nichil de exitib3 officioꝝ cam̄arioꝝ ꝑđcoꝝ vendic̃oib3 wardaꝝ ꝛ maritagioꝝ ꝑđcoꝝ ⸗ [de] exitib3 officioꝝ đcoꝝ [custodis] ꝛ escambij monete ñre ꝑđce ⸗ [de] đcis collectorib3 triū

solidoꝝ de dolio ꝛt duodecim denarioꝝ de libra ⁊ aut de đcis collectoribꝫ subsidij lanaꝝ [p̄đcaꝝ] aliqualiꝫ levetʳ nec solvatʳ quousq; p̄đco Thes̃ hospicij [ñri] ꝑ tempore existent̃ de sūma p̄đca in forma p̄đca plenarie fuit satisfcm. In cujꝰ ꝛc. T. R. apud Westm̃.

GLOUCESTRE H. WYNTON' J. LONDON' PH' WYGORNIEN'
CANCELL' WARREWYK CROMWELL' SCROP'
S. THESAURARIꝰ TYPTOT HUNGERFORD ALYNGTON'

*In dorso.* xij. die Julii aº sc̃do apud Westm̃ concesſ fuit q̃d fiat warant̃ Dño Cancellar̃ de faciendo ł̃ras ℞ pat̃ ut in forma infrascript̃ ⁊ p̃ntibꝫ Dñis infrascriptꝰ.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. v. f. 421. *contemporary* MS.

Minutes of Council, 13th November, 16 Hen.VI. 1437. This article, which was omitted in its proper place in vol. v., is printed in the Appendix to the Rolls of Parliament of the reign of King Henry the Sixth. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 438.]

THE Wednysday xiij. day of Novembr̃ þe yere of þe regne of Kyng Henri þe vjᵗⁱ. the xvj. at þospital of Saint Johan of Jer̃m fast by Londoñ ⁊ the Kyng in his Grete Counseil beyng þꝫe present ⁊ considering the grete labours occupac̃ons and diligences þe whiche falle unto hym fro tyme to tyme aboute þe gouvnance of his reaumes of England and of Fraunce and oþer his lordships ⁊ for the conservacion of his righ̃tz in þe same ⁊ and þat the revenues of hem be better gadred to his proufit ⁊ and encresed ⁊ as ferforth̃ as mañ justely may ⁊ and the better to kepe and susteigne his honurable estate ⁊ AND also for þe conservacion of lawes custumes and statutes of his reaume of England ⁊ to þentent that even

right and justice be doon to every persone as wel to pouere as to riche: of his owen good wil desiryng to be supported in all suche matiers by the labours of wyse and discrete persones, for asmuche as he shal not mowe attende to hem in his owne ꝑsone as oft as he wold, for the grete love and trust that he hath amongꝯ oꝑ to his uncle Humfrey duc of Gloucestre his grete uncle H. Cardinal of England the full worshipfull and worshipful fadres in God and right worthi and noble lordes and oꝑ of his said reaume of England suche as followeth, ꝑat is to say, Henri archiebysshoꝑ of Canterbury Johan archiebysshoꝑ of York William bysshop of Lincoln Thomas bysshop of Saint David Johan erle of Huntyngdon Humfrey erle of Stafford Richard erle of Saꝛ Henri erle of Northumberland William erle of Suff Waultier lord Hungerford Johan lord Typtot J. bysshop of Bath Chaunceller of England Rauf lord Cromwell Tresorer of England William Lyndewode Keper of the pᵛe seal William Phelip knyght Chamberlein John Sturton knyght and Robert Rollestoñ clerc Keper of ꝑe grete warderobe, hath chosen and deputed the said persones and ev̄y of hem to be of his prive counseill, Willyng and cōmandyng hem ꝑat in ꝑe matiers to be moved in his said Counseil thei put tentiflye ꝑeir hole labours and diligences for his worchip and ꝓfit, and namely for the conservacion of ye lawes custumes and statutes aboveseid, yevyng hem poair to here, trete, comōn, appoynt, conclude, and determine suche matiers as shal happen for to be moved among hem, Alweys forseen ꝑat chartiers of pardon of cryme collacons of benefices ꝑat shal voide in dede and offices and oꝑ thyngꝯ ꝑat stond in grace be reserved unto ꝑe Kyng for to do and dispose for hem as hym good semeth, And also yf it happen any matᵉ or matᵉs of grete weght and charge to be moved among hem, the

Kyng woll that þei cõmoñ þe matiers, but not conclude fully þynne withouteñ his advis. And in cas þat in matiers to be comoned and treted amongꝯ hem the whiche may be determined and concluded by þe said Counsail þ fall amongꝯ hem variance in opinions paraventre half ayenst half or ij°. parties ayenst þe thirdde, þe Kyng woll in all suche cas be informed as well of þe matieres so moved as of þe diversitee of þopinions of þe seid Counseil, he þynne to conclude and to dispose aftir his goode plesir. Forþmore the Kyng consideryng þe grete labours coustes and diligences whiche hath fallen and shal falle to his seide conseillers, in recompense of her said labours coustes and diligences dooñ and to be dooñ hath graunted to þe persones hereafter writen yerly for terme of her lyves þe sommes þat folouen. That is to say, to my lord þe Duc of Gloucestr his uncle aforeseid m$^{l}$. m$^{l}$. marc þe whiche he hath graunted to hym here afore for attendance to his conseilx as long as it shuld like hym, also in þe same wyse to Humfrey erle of Stafford cc. marc, also in þe same wyse to þerle of Northumbr c. li. also to þerles of Huntyngd Salisbury and of Suff evyche of hem c. li. rebatyng in þe same somme as muche as þey take nowe of þe Kyng by vertue of anny offices þat þei have of his yift. And yf þe seid offices and þe proufitz of hem strecche not to the seide somme of c. li. þat þenne of þat þat shal so faile þe seid Erles shal be paied of þat þat lakkyth in þe complisshement to evych of hem of þe seide somme of c. li. And also þe Kyng for þe causes aforseide hath graunted to þe Lord Hungerford Cromwell and Typtot aforseid evich of hem c. marc and to þe seide Sir Johan Stourton knyght xl. li. And in þees grauntes aforeseide þe Kyng woll þat þeire lres patentes þupon to be made be made for the goode service þat þei have doo and shal doo unto þe Kyng and namely for

intendance unto his counseilx, eche of hem deliveryng ageyneward unto þe Kyng here countre ȝres so to be witholdeñ. PROVIDED also þat noon of hem take anny fee of any oþ̄ persone þen of þe Kyng except fro ye matiers aforeseid þat my Lord of Gloucestre shal not lay inñ his countre ȝre. And in cas þat anny of ye seide lordes or conseillers fall to suche unweldenesse or impotence þat he shal not mowe entende unto þe Kyngꝭ saide Counseil yit nev̄þelees ye Kyng wol þat he shal have and rejoise þe seide fee for terme of his lyf. Over þis þe Kyng woll̄ þat his cousin Thomas erle of Devenshire for ye good service þat he hath̄ dooñ and shal doo unto him have yerely as long as he shal live þe fee of c. ll̄i.

ITEM it is to be remembred of what places or revenues þe seide paiementz shal be made by whos handes and at what termes.

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[Additional MS. 4609. art. 99. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 27th February, 22 Hen. VI. 1444. This article was also accidentally omitted in its proper place.]

HENRI &c. as Tresorer et Chamberleyns de notre eschequier salus. Nous volons de ladvis et assent de notre Counsail et vous mandons que a notre bien ame Johan Wenlok esquier un de noz ambassiateurs[1] de present par nous ordennez daler en notre royaume de France facez paier de notre tresour quarant livres par voie dapprest a cause de les coustages et expenses queux lui convendra avoir et sustenier par celle encheson.

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[1] He was appointed one of the Ambassadors to treat for peace with France on the 9th September, 21 Hen. VI. 1443. Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 13.

Rex de advisamento sui Concilii xxvij. die Febr̃ anno ℞c. xxij°. apud Westmoñ in Camera Stellat̃ mandavit Custodi privati sigilli litteras fieri debere sub eodem sigil̃ in forma suprascripta, præsentibus Dominis Cancellario Angliæ Comit̃ Suff̃ et Custode privati sigilli una cum aliis.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 112. b. *Original.*

Minutes of the Council. There is nothing to fix the date of this art but it is inserted in the MS. immediately after the Minutes of 3rd March, 22nd Hen.VI. 1444. in p. 28, *antea.*]

R. H.[1]

. . . . . souverain lord̃ the Kyng is . . . . . and importante sutes . . . . . upon for the graunte diverse and many peticions and billes and . . . . as i supposed̃ not advertised̃ clerely of þat þat is conteigned in þe said̃ billes and of þat þat may sewe þ̄of not verily enfourmed̃ of þe . . . . . þe which̃ sholde . . . . . his good̃ grace to graunte þe said̃ billes or moeve his highnesse to lay theime by, to thentent þat such̃ besy and importante sutes be laide aside and to eschewe þinconvenient̃ þat now sewe þ̄of, it is thought̃ to my lordes of þe Kyng̃ Counsail if it please þe Kyng under his noble correcc̃on þat þe reule and ordre in grauntyng and spedyng of billes directed̃ to his highnesse myght be such as folowen: humbly protestyng þat þei . . . . before his said̃ grace oonly by wey of advertisment and noon oþ̄wise For þei in no wise thinke nor have will to do or . . . . any thing but þat the Kyng̃ good̃ grace do

[1] The King's autograph.

at all tymes as it shall plese him and use his power and wille as it pteyneth to his roial estate.

Furst of any lorde of his Counsaill or othir or any man aboute his psone . . . . . and be immediat labor or to the Kyng for pexpedicon of any bille for an othir psone, that he subscribe himselfe in the said bille, so that it may be knowen at all tymes by whoos meanes and labour everi bille is, and if he pat sueth the bille canne nat write him selfe, that thanne sume man for him that canne write, write the said suters name upon the said bille to thintente abovesaid.

Item that all billes so subscribed and receyved by the Kyng be delivered to such psone or psones as it shall plese his highnesse to assigne and depute therto, and pat the saide psone or psones visite and see pe continue of every bille.

Item if thar be billes of justice and cōteyne matre of cōmune lawe that they whitoute any more advertyse the Kingt good grace pof, to pentent pat it may like pe Kyng yf it plese him to cōmaunde peime to be sent to his Counsail pat pei may by padvis of his said Counsail be remitted to pe cōmune lawe and to such places where pe matier is terminable, but yf it so be pat pe party suing pe bille be of nonne power to suwe pe cōmune lawe.

Item if pe matier cōteined in the said billes be matre of grace, thanne the saide psone or psones shall clerely and trewely put shortly in writing on the bakside of the saide billes what by whome and howe many thinges been asked pinne and subscribe the saide writinges with his owne hande, so pat his highnesse may verily undrestande what is desired and why, and so to

use his g$^{a}$ce or noo or cõmaunde it to be sent to his Counsaill to have their advis as it shall please him. And yf it please his highnesse to shewe his grace and graunte the bille or part ꝑof. the saide ꝑsone or ooñ of the saide ꝑsones with his owne hande shall write upoñ the said bille forthwith their as the scripture of the bille endeth in what maner and fourme it hath pleased the King to shewe his grace. þat is to say. if the King graunte all the hole bille þ$^{t}$ it be so writeñ. and if he graunte part ꝑof and not all or otherwise modefie it. þ$^{t}$ clerely be made mencioñ ꝑof in þe sayd writing with þe day and place where the saide bille or part ꝑof is graunted and in whoos ꝑnce and sꝑially in the ꝑnce of what lord or lordes as is ꝑe at þ$^{t}$ tyme if any be. thanne the Kinges goodenesse if it please him to put ꝑto his hande and signe þe bille immediatly after þe saide writinge or cõmaunde his chamblain to subscribe it or take it to his secretary cõmaundyng him ꝑ with. so þat fro þ$^{t}$ tyme þ$^{t}$ it be in maner and fourme abovesaide signed noo mañ shall mowe adde ꝑto or mynuss.

Item þ$^{t}$ in all tres by the which the King graunteth and yeveth any thinge to any ꝑsone. this clause be put inne. provided alway þ$^{t}$ the Kyng hath not graunted the thinges asked to any othir ꝑsone afore that tyme.

Item that the warrantes to þe signet and also the copies of all that shall passe the signet. be it tres missives or oꝑ. be truely and redily kept to þentent that as ofte as the Kinge wol cõmaunde it may be seeñ what þinges be passed him and also þ$^{t}$ no thinge be writeñ contrary to þat þat passeth before.

Item þat for asmuch as it is like that suche thinge as passeth the handes of many ꝑsones shal the more redily

and sadely passe and any hurte that shulde elles mowe growe to þe King or to p͛judice of any othir̃ ꝑsone the more to be eschewed̃ ⸗ it is þoug̃ht þ^t all billes whanne the King of his goode grace hat̃h graunted̃ þeim ⸗ be deliv͛ed̃ to his secretary and l̃res to be conceyved̃ upon̄ theim directed̃ undre the signet to the Keper̃ of the prive seal ⸗ and from þens under the prive seel to the Chauncell̃r of Englande.

Item that the Keper̃ of the prive seal what tyme he receyvet̃h l̃res under the signet shall if it be thoug̃ht to him þ^t the mat͛e conteyned̃ in the same be of greet charge ⸗ have recours to þe lordes of the Counsail̃l and open̄ to þeim the matere ⸗ to þentente þat if it be thoug̃ht necessarie to theim the King be advertised̃ þ͛of or it passe.

Item if þadvisamentꝭ beforesaide pleese þe King and be acceptable to his hig̃hnesse ⸗ þ^t the ꝑsone or ꝑsones abovesaide deputed̃ and ordeyned̃ to visette billes be sworn̄ in fourme þ^t folowet̃h.

Ye shal̃l swere þat as ferfort̃h as in you shal̃l be ⸗ ye aswel̃l in visityng and ov͛seeing as in writing and subscribing of billes ⸗ the articles abovesaide and ev͛iche of þeim that touche ye shal̃l trewely justely and fait̃hfully obſve and kepe wit̃houte any ꝑcialtee or accepc̃on of ꝑsone or ꝑsones ⸗ not leving nor eschewing so to doo for affecc̃on love mede doubte or drede of any ꝑsone or ꝑsones ⸗ and þat ye shal̃l noo yifte mede goode ne promisse of gode by you nor by noone meane ꝑsone receyve nor admitte for promoc̃on favoring nor for declaringe speding letting or hindering of any bille to be graunted̃ by the King or to be laide aparte.

Item in eschuyng of riottes excesses misgouv͛n^ance and disobeisauns ayens the Kinges estate and for the

pesible gouvnable of his lawes and in example yeving of restful rule and goode gouvnable herafter to all his subgitts, yif it like unto pe Kinge and undre his correccon and grace it is semith right be hooful and expedient pat it be ordeined pt noo lord of what estate degre or condicon pat he be of wittingly receive cherissh holde in householde ne maintene pilours robbours oppssours of pe people mansleers felons outelawes ravisshours of women or any other open misdoers wherby the partes greved by him shall not darr mowe pursue ayens theim lawfully by cause of suche supportacon of lordshipp, and also that nother be coloure ne occasion of feoffament nor oppwise any of the saide lordes shall take noone othir mennes cause or quarel in mayntenance ne conceyve ayens any juge or officer indignacon or displesaince for doing of his offices in fourme of lawe nor lette by worde writing or elles the Kingc comune lawe to have his cours, and pt pei kepe this to peir power not oonly in peir awne psones but pt they see pt all other in their countre peir fvants and othir suche as bethe undre hem of lesse estate do the same, And yf any counsailler of pe Kingc lorde or other be founde by due examinacon doo pe contrary of any of pe pingc abovesaide in pe same article, to be put oute of pe Kingc Counsaill, And if any lorde or manne pat is not of pe Kinges Counseill do pe contrary of the pingc abovesaide conteyned in pe saide articles that from hens forward he be not made justice of the peax ne noon other officer.

[Additional MS. 4609. art. 75. a modern *Transcript.*

Proceeding of the Council, 13th January, 23 Hen. VI. 1445. This Article ought to have been inserted in p. 30.]

HENRI par la grace de Dieu Roy d'Engleterre et de Fraunce et Seignur d'Irlande a touts ceux que cestes noz lettres verront saluz.

Sachez que nous de notre grace especial et de lavis de notre Counsail eonz donez et grantez conge et licence et par cestes presentes donons et grauntons conge et licence a notre bien ame Angelus Tany de Florence de present esteant en ceste notre royaume d'Angleterre qil par qil̃ port que luy plerra dedeins ceste notre royaume puisse par terre et par meer fair estr̃ amesnez et conduits a luy un balaice de cccxx. caractz ycelle balaice poisant ij. unces et un quarter ou la entour pur mesme la balice sil puisse vendre en yceste notre royaume, et sil ne soit venduz qalors bien lirra a luy de le envoier hors diceste notre royaume vers queux parties que le plerra saunz paier a nous ou a notre heps aucune custume ou devoir a nous due pur lapporte dicelle balaice en notre dte royaume ou pur lenvoie hors dicelle et saunz distourbance ou empechement de nous noz officers et ministres, purveu toutesvoies que si mesme la balaice soit venduz en ceste notre royaume d'Engleterre que alors nous soions bien et loialment paiez et responduz des custumes et devoirs en ceste partie duez, et que a la primer apportee dicelle balaice en yceste notre royaume elle soit veue et discrevee par noz officers et en cas qille soit rapportee hors de mesme notre royaume qelle soit aussi revewe et discrivie par noz officers, si donons en maundement a tous noz officers et ministres qils soeffrent et lassent la dit

balaice estre amesnez et conduictz en yceste notre royaume renvoiee hors dicelle selonc ce que dessuis est dit saunz desturbance ou empechement acune de nous noz officers ou ministres. En tesmoignaunce du qelle chose nous avons fte faiꝛ cestes noz lettres patentes dessoubz notre prive seal. Donne a Westm̃ le xiij. jour de Januer̃ lañ &c. xxiij.

(*In dorso.*) Loco die mense et anno suprascript̃ Rex de avisamento Consilii sui mandavit Custodi privati sigilli sui litteras fieri facere sub eodem sigillo secundum tenorem suprascript̃. præsentibus Dom̃ Cancellario Thesaurario Angliæ Custode privati sigilli Domino de Beaumont et aliis.

T. Kent.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. vi. f. 297. *Original.*

Instructions to the Commissioners who were appointed to borrow money for the expences of the King's marriage: the date is not stated, but they were apparently issued towards the end of the year 1444, 23 Hen. VI., as Henry's marriage with Margaret of Anjou was celebrated on the 22nd April 1445. Preparations were made for her reception in England in August 1444; and as early as January following, a ring "of gold garnished with a fair ruby," which had been given to the King by his uncle Cardinal Beaufort, on the day of his coronation in Paris, was delivered to a goldsmith "to break and thereof to "make another ring for the Queen's wedding ring." *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. pp. 71, 76.]

Furst þe said̃ cõmissiõrs shal sey unto evich̃ of þeim on þe Kingꝛ behalve þat þe King greteth̃ þeim ẖtely wel and holdeth̃ for certaine þat it is not unknowen unto þeim howe þat but late agoo he sent his rizt trusty and rizt welbeloved cousin þerle of Suff and his rizt trusty and rizt welbeloved clerc Maistre Adam Moleyns doctour

of lawe keper of his prive seel[1] his counsaillers and oþ⁊ with̄ þeim into his reaume of France for divers matiers gretely touching þe prospitee worship̄ and welfare of him his landes and subgettꝭ by whos notable and advysy labours ꝯt diligencꝭ it hath̄ liked our̄ lord to shewe unto þe King̃ his grete faveurs ꝯt gracꝭ in div⁊s maniers, and in esp̄ial in ꝑviding him of a quene of a high̄ and noble birthe gretely endowed with̄ yiftꝭ of grace and of nature, for the which̄ it is fully trowed þat þe King̃ and all̄ his trewe subgettꝭ have and shal have cause to þanke our lord þ⁊fore.

And for asmoche as it is not according to þe Kingꝭ worship̄ nor to his hertꝭ ease þat þe cōmyng of hir into þis his lande be longe taryed or delayed, þe King purposeth̄ him þ⁊fore by þe grace of God to dispose and ordeigne þat she shal be conduyted unto him with̄ all̄ haste goodely possible in suche wise as it shal be according to þestat and worship̄ of him of hir and of þis his reaume, and þat doon to purveye for þe solempnitee of hir coronac̄on in maniere and fourme accustumed.

And over this, the King lateth̄ þeim wite for his esp̄ial rejoising and comfort þat he standeth̄ in right̄ good truste and hope of a pees finalle to be concluded, and had betwix him and his uncle of F . . . . for þe laisir̄ and oportunite of appointyng̃ of þe whiche þere is taken betwix þe King and his said̄ uncle a trieus for a certaine tyme undre þe whiche þe saide pees shal mowe behovefully be treated t . good conclusion̄ and an ende.

[1] The Earl of Suffolk and Dr. Moleyns were two of the King's ambassadors who concluded a truce with France in May 1444. *Vide* Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 60, *et seq.*

And for asmoche as þe þingꝭ abovesaide may not be executed and fulfilled withoute ful grete and notable sōmes of good and dispenses ⸝ and þat þe grete and importable charges þat [þe] King hatħ of longe tyme born namely for þe werrꝭ and þe defense of þis his lande have gretely bared him of tresour̃ and redy good ⸝ the King prayetħ ꝑ̃for̃ rizt hertely þe saiđ cōmissioñs and þe saide ꝑsones sp̃uell̃ and temporell̃ and evicħ of þeim as þey love and tendre þe worship̃ and welfare of þe King and in esp̃ial of þis his reaume þat þey wol shewe unto him in þis his necessitee þeire affeccioñ and goođ wille ⸝ easing him by wey of apprest undre sufficeant assignement of suche a sōme of monneye as shal be desired of evicħ of þeim by the said cōmissioñs wherinne þey shal doo unto þe King rizt singuler plaisir wherþorougħ þe King wol co . þeim rizt good þanke and shewe unto þeim his gracious faveur in suche þingꝭ as þey shal have to do wt him in tyme to come and þat þe same sōme of monneye evicħ of þeim wol sende it into þe receyte of þe Kingꝭ eschequier by suche a ꝑsone as he trustetħ on in all̃ goodely haste and at þe ferrest by Oure lady day assumpcioñ next cōmyng̃ þer̃ for to delive it to þe Tref of Englande or to suche [a] ꝑson or ꝑsones as þat he wo. depute to receive it ⸝ taking at þat tyme for his repaiement ꝑ̃of sufficeant assignement of þe Kingꝭ custumes subsidies and all̃ oꝑ̃ ꝑfitꝭ cōmoditees and revenues þat ben þe Kingꝭ his heirs ꝛ successours and of his jewelx and goodes moevable and goodes jewelx and catelles of his coronne.

And þe King wol and chargetħ þe saiđ cōmissioñs þat suche sōmes of monneye as þat þey shal in þis behalve borowe for þe King þat þey make ꝑ̃of a bille endented betwix þeim and þe said lener in þe whiche shal be

especified þe sōme þat shal be lened and þe day whenne þat it shal be sent into þe Kingꝭ receite ⸗ and þat suche billes be sent into þe said receite by þe feste of Seint Laurence next cōmyng̃ [1] and at þe ferrest by Our̃ saide lady day assumpcioñ.[2]

BENET.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, C. XIV. 496. *Original.*

Petition to the King. The date has not been ascertained, but it is assigned in a modern hand to the 24th Hen.VI. 1445-1446. A transcript of the Privy Seal which was issued in consequence of this Petition is annexed to the Red Book of the Exchequer. *Vide* Cooper's Account of the Public Records, vol. ii. pp. 313, 314.]

R. H.[3]

PLEASE hit yo^r^ hig̃hnesse to cōmaunde yo^r^ Tresorer of Englanđ by yo^r^ l̃res of prive seall̃ to p^r^veie c̃tein writers stuffe of parchemynt and other necessaries acordyng̃ for the writyng̃ and makyng̃ of c̃tein bokes in yo^r^ escheker of large and legible hanđ and in gret volumys ⸗ that is to sey ⸗ the lawes and other contentys of the booke called the reeđ booke of the eschequer ⸗ the rolle of parcell̃ of the fyfteneth̃ peny in all̃ the shires in Englanđ ⸗ the registres of dymes of all̃ the diocises in Englanđ and in Walys ⸗ all̃ the rolles calleđ rolles of the ꝓfitez of all̃ the shires in Englanđ ⸗ the rolles calleđ rolles of the resonable eayde of all̃ the shires in Englanđ ⸗ and also all̃ the . . . . . of yo^r^ noble ꝓgenito^r^s Kynges Richarđ the Seconđ ⸗ Henry the iiij^te^. ⸗ and Henry the v^te^. ⸗ and of yow sov̄eigne lorđ ⸗ which̃ bokes and rolles beth̃ in parcell̃ of so small̃ scripture and in parcell̃ caduke for

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[1] February 2nd. [2] August 15th. [3] The King's autograph.

antiquite that unnethes . . . may be red and understandyñ, to the gret hurt of yor enheritaunce and other lordes of yor land disto'bance of the poeple of yor land and of the offics of yor seid eschequer.

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[Bibl. Cotton, Vespasian, F. XIII. f. 36. *Original.*

Petition to the King, with the Answer, dated 17th February, 26 Hen.VI. 1448. This article was accidentally omitted in its proper place.]

LIKE hit unto the Kyng oure souvain lord to gaunte yor lres of warrant direct to John Merston squier Tresorer of your chambr and Keper of yor jewell, charging hym to delive of yor gifte a cuppe of silv and gilt cov'ed and chased to John Say squier, weyng of troie weight iiijlb' xj. unc iij. qart, to be taken of þe stuffe in youre jewell hous.

THE KYNG HATH' GRAUNTYT DYS BELLE CHAMB'LAYN SAY F A I.

Don &c. a Westm le xvij. jor de Fever lan &c. xxvjme.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 138. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Bailiff of Great Yarmouth, dated 10th April, but there is nothing to shew in what year: it is assigned, in a modern hand, to the 26th Hen.VI. 1447-1448.]

By the Kyng.

TRUSTY and welbeloved, We late you wite þat for asmoch as on Richard Elys marchant of Grete Yernemouth is in youre warde arrestid by our writt of Capias utlegat for a certain dett due unto oure right trusty and

welbeloved knyght John Fastalf as we be enformede, We for certain causes us and oure Counsaill moeving wol and charge you þat all excusacons ceessing ye bringe the saide Richarde Elys befor our said Counsaill *at W*[estm] the xx. day of this pnt monyth of April to aunswer to such thinge as shall be shewed and declared unto the said Richard at his comyng thider, and þt ye faille not hereof upon peyn of cc. li. as ye wol eschewe our displeasir. Yeven &c[a]. at Westm the x. day of April.

To oure trusty and welbeloved þe Baillef of Moch Yernemouth.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, E. III. f. 93. *Original.*

Letter from the King. The date does not appear, but it is assigned in a modern hand to the 26 Hen.VI. 1447-1448.]

By þe Kyng.

R. H.

Trusty and welbeloved, We have understande by þe worshipfull fadre in God the Bisshop of Chestre, that howe be it þat upon a matier touchyng correccion of soule of James Hall pson of parisshe chirche of Northerden within his diocise, whereof þe saide James was cyted to have appiered afore hym his vicair gen̄all or comissaries at a certaine day, as Goddes lawe wolde, yet sith the saide citacion ye have sent unto him & to his saide vicair gen̄all or comissaries a prohibicion in and for þis behalfe under oure seall of Chestre beyng in youre kepyng, whereof we mvaille gretely and be evell content, And we considering þat þe correccon of soule belongeth

[1] The King's autograph.

to the Bisshop of þe diocise, to exercise it freely at his lybertee in any place within the same diocise, without lettyng of you or of any oþ man, woll þfor by þadvis and assent of oure Counsaille charge you straitely þat anoon after the sight of þees all excusacions ceassyng of all maner processe made or to be made by force and vertue of þe saide prohibicion ye surcesse utterly without makyng of any ferther processe in or for þat behalf, for þe makyng of such prohibicions beth ayenst Goodes lawe t þe chirches and þe grete chartre þe which at þe tyme of þe receyvyng of þe oure coroune we be sworn upon the Holy Evangelies to observe t kepe. And forthermore we by þadvis t assent of oure Counsaille woll and straitely charge you þat of making from hensforthward under oure saide seall of any prohibicion in lettyng his jurisdiccion* or correccion of soule by þe saide worshipfull fadre in God or any of his officers ye surcesse for ever. And we woll þat ye leve not þis on þe feith t ligeaunce þat ye owe unto us and as ye woll eschewe to renne into oure grevous indignacion. Yeven &c.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 137. *Original.*

Proceeding of the Council, the date of which is not fully stated; but it is assigned in a modern hand to the 26th Hen. VI. 1447-1448, which is probably correct, as Marmaduke Lumley bishop of Carlisle was Lord Treasurer in 1446, and was translated to Lincoln in 1450.]

To the right reverent fader in God the Bysshop of Carlile Tresorere of Engelond.

Please it un to youi good lordship to be informed how that Richard Heynes and Robert Pylton the Kynge comis-

sioners to that assigned, have aspied that oon Robert Pyn of Yermouth in the counte of Northf hath ben and yet ys causer capteyne supportour chief counseilour and ptiner of divers wolles t wollefell that be covyn and assent betwyxe him and other divers mysdoers hath ben shipped in the seide port of Yermouth ayenst the Kyng inhibiciouns and pclamaciouns, for the reformaciouñ of the whiche falshodes and disceitz the sixte day of April last passed an inquisicouñ was purposed at Yermouth aforseide be the seide cōmissioners, whom the seide Robert Pyn thenne beyng oon of the baylyfs of the seide towñ wold not assiste in any wyse but as moche as was in him thurgh the strengthe of divers mysdoers standyng under his pteccioun and defence resisted and letted the seide cōmissioners that they might not pcede to the execuciouñ of the seide office, so that thurgh the fraude and male ingeine of the seide Robert [Pyn] the Kyng hath ben defrauded of his custumes subsidies and of forfetures in the seide port to the somme of a m^l. li. and moche mor ys lyke to be in tyme comyng without that remedie be the sounr pvyded, Wherfor please it un to your hie dignite to doo be made lres of p^vey seal directed to^ the seide Robert Pyn chargyng him streitly that alle excusaciouns and delaies sett a syde he appier in ppr psone atte oeptaes of the Trinite nexte comyng to for the Kyng Counseil where soev they schal be, there to make answher unto suche matiers as shal be leyde ayenst him at that tyme on the Kyng behalf, and that he lett not uppon hys liegeaunce and feith that he owith unto the Kyng, Also to doo be mad lres of p^vey seal directed to f Miles Stapiltoñ knyght and to Thomas Fen and his felaship conestables of the seide towñ chargyng hem streitly to counseil support and to assiste the seide cōmissioners to doo and execute ther aftyr the teno^r of the seide cōmissiouñ to

the best entent for the Kyng as the caas shal requir and specialy uppon theym that standyn yn the caas of punishementz to be mad uppon theyme aft the forme of any statute theruppō made for wolles and wollefell caried out of Engē ovyr the see ayenst the forme of the seide statutz. Also that the seide knyght and conestables doo calle to for the seide cōmissioners suche psonys notable and of good fame as be whom the trouth may best be knowe. and if ther be any resonable cause to sey why they shuld not soo doo that [thenne] they appier to for the Kyngs Counseill atte seide oeptaes to informe hem of the seide cause. and that they lette not uppon the peyne of a m^l. li.

(*In dorso.*) In Cam̄a Stellat apud Westm̄ xv^to. concesf est petic̄o infrascript et ex mandato Regs p avisamentum Consilii mandabatur fieri ras sub privato sigillo ut desideratur. p̄nt Dñis Car^le Cancellario Thes Wintoñ Norwic̄ Stourtoñ Stanley &c^a.

LANGPORT.

Mast Thomas Kent clerc of þ^e Counsell.

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[Additional MS. 4609. art. 101. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to Henry Bromflete Lord Vessy, dated 14th July, and apparently in the 31st Hen. VI. 1453. *Vide* p. 143, *antea.*]

By the King.

RIGHT trusty and welbeloved. For asmoche as now late upon declaration made unto you on oure behalf by oure right trusty and welbeloved oure Tresorer of Englande of the gret dangier and perill that oure right welbeloved cousin th'Erle of Shrovesbury and oure subgittes of oure contree and duchee of Guyenne stande in for lacke of socour ayenst oure adversary and

enemies of Fraunce, ye as we conceive were aggreed in relief and socours of oure said cosin and contree to ease us by way of lone of the sõme of cc. marc, Wherefore we write to you nowe willing and also charging you that as ye desir the welfare of oure saide cosin and contree and especiale the commune good of this oure lande, ye by the berer hereof sende unto oure tresorie the saide sõme, or elles alle excusations ceesing ye be wt us and oure Consail personally the xviij. day of this moneth at oure paloys of Westm̃ to understande suche matiers as shalbe opened to you, and that ye leve not this in any wyse upon the perill that may falle. Yeven &c. att Westm̃ the xiiij. day of Juill.

To the Lord Vessy.

De mandato Regis per avisamentum sui Consilii, presenț Dominis Cardinale Wintoñ Somerș Theș Sancti Johannis Decano Sancti Severini Thoma Broune milite Thorp̃ &c.

T Kent

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[Bibl. Cotton. Cleopatra, F. v. f. 177. *contemporary* MS.

Minutes of Council, which are assigned in a modern hand to the 3rd March, 34 Hen.VI. 1455-1456.]

Also ꝑe upon a demaunde ꝑt my Lord̃ Chauncellr maad̃ to ꝑe Chief jugt̃ & to ꝑe remenant of ꝑe jugꝭ, hou ꝑt ꝑe Kꝭ lawes noꝑ justice myzt not be executed̃ [in Lincolnshir̃] by cause ꝑ was no sherrief ꝑe ~~a~~ and ꝑt ꝑe Kyngt̃ by hs lres patentes undr̃ his gret seal had̃ deputed̃ certain men for to have be ~~justic~~ sherriefs ꝑe, what ꝑeim semed̃ sholde be dooñ in ꝑs behalf, so ꝑt ꝑe Kyngꝭ lawes & justice myzt ben executed̃ in ꝑt shir̃ as it is executed̃ in oꝑ shirꝭ of England̃.

The ij. chiēf, þe same day cam unto my lordꝭ of þe Kyngꝭ Cōsail in þe Sterred Chambr̃, and upoñ þe above-said demaunde seydeñ þ^t þeim semed, and so it semed unto þe remenant of his jugꝭ þ^t þ^e Kyng dede an errour̃ when þ^t he maad an oþ̃ ꝑsone Sherrief of Lincoln shir̃ ~~þ^t wher wa~~ þan was chosen ~~by~~ and ꝑsented unto his hiegħnesse after þeffect of þestatut in such behalf maad.[1]

And þougħ þ^t he þ^t so was maad sherrief wolde not take it upoñ him, ought not to be so punysshid and to make also gret a fyn for h^s disobeissance as þ^t yif he had be ooñ of þe iij. ꝑsones þ^t wer̃ chosen to be sherriefs after þe teneur̃ of þestatut.

And forthermor̃ þeim semed ~~to~~ that þe Kyng sholđ have recours to þe iij. ꝑsones þ^t wer̃ chosen after þe teneur̃ of þestatut, and make ooñ of hē sherrief by lres patētꝭ bering date oþ̃ at þe day of bellecc̃on of hē or elles at Michelmasse.

And þougħ þ^t setħ þe said elecc̃on any of hē have gete him an exempc̃on þ^t he sholde not be maad sherrief, yet þeim semetħ þ^t he sholde be charged to take þe said office upoñ him.

And forthermor̃ þeim semetħ y^t yif noon of þe said iij. ꝑsones choseñ be maad, þ^t þenne som oþ̃ thrifty man dwelling in a forein shir̃ be ~~maad~~ entreted to occupie þe said office for þ^s yer̃.

And þe next yer̃ þ^t in eschuyng of such inconveñcꝭ that þe ordr̃ of þestatut in such behalf maad be obſved ꝫ kept.

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[1] *Vide* Statutes of the Realm, Nov. Ord. 5 Edw. II. c. 17; Stat. de Vic. 9 Edw. II.; 14 Edw. III. st. 1. c. 7.; 23 Hen. VI. c. 7, 10; and Rot. Parl. vol. v. pp. 108, 181.

[Bibl. Cotton. Titus, E. vi. f. 372. *Original.*

Letter from the King to the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, dated on the 27th January, and apparently in the 35th Hen. VI. 1457, summoning them to attend a Great Council at Coventry on the 14th of February following. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. v. p. 347 b, and Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 398.]

By the King.

Right trusty and welbeloved̄ ⸗ For many greet causes such̄ as concerne right̄ sp̄ially the wele of us ⸗ the restfull̄ rule of oure lande and subgittꝭ and the suretee of the same ⸗ we have ordeyned̄ to have a Greet Cownsail at oure towne of Coventree ⸗ to begynne the xiiij. day of Fever next cōmyng ⸗ For somuch̄ we wol and charge you as ye love the wele of us ⸗ oure saide lande and subgittꝭ ⸗ that ye all̄ excusacions sette apart ⸗ be at our̄ saide towne the day above reherced̄ to yeve your̄ good̄ advis for the forthering of the saide matiers ⸗ and that ye leve not this as ye desire to doo us right̄ singuler pleasir̄. Yeven̄ under ꝛc. at Westm̄ the xxvij. day of January

. Tharchebisshop̄ of Caunt̄bury
Tharchebisshop̄ of York

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ep̄i | . London̄ | . Norwiche | . Chestre |
| | . Wynchestr̄ | . Landaf | . Duresme |
| | . Bathe | . Chichestr̄ | . Carlisle |
| | . Salesbury | . Worcestre | . Saint Davit |
| | . Rochestr̄ | . Lyncoln̄ | . Hereford̄ |
| | | | . Saint Assaph̄ |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abbottꝭ | . Colchestr̄ | . Redyng |
| | . Abynton̄ | . Srowesbury |
| | . Glaston̄ | . Glowcestr̄ |
| | . Bury | . Surcestr̄ |
| | . Malmesbury | [illegible]r of Coventree |
| | . York | |

+ Westmystr̃
+ Petirbourgh̃
+ Ramsey
+ Selby

Duces
- York
- Norff
- Excestr̃
- Bukynghᵃm
- Somset

Comites
- Pembrok
- Arondell̃
- Stafford̃
- Scrouesbury
- Wilceſ̃
- Northumbr̃
- Oxonford̃
- Devonshir̃

Vic̃
- Beaumont
- Burgchier

+

Barones
- The Prior of Saint Johis
- Lordꝯ Grey Ruthyñ
- Grey Codnore
- Lovell̃
- Welles
- Willughby
- Ferrers of Grouby
- Scales
- Zouche
- Ryvers
- Audeley
- Dudeley
- Botreaux
- Clifford̃
- Bergeveny
- La Warr̃
- Fitz Wareyñ
- Barneys
- Scrop of Upsall̃
- Dacrees
- Sudeley
- Beauchamp̃
- Stanley
- Saint Amond̃
- Stourtoñ Say
- Hungerford̃
- Greystok
- Fitz Hugh̃
- Roos

[Additional MS. 4611. art. 74. a modern *Transcript.*

Letter from the King to the Chancellor of the University, and Mayor of the town, of Cambridge, dated on the 17th November, but the year is uncertain. It is assigned in a modern hand to the 32nd Hen.VI. 1454. A Letter to a similar purport, addressed to the Sheriff of Kent, in July 1455, is printed in p. 246, *antea.*]

By the King.

TRUSTY and welbeloved ꝛ Late at oure shire day holden at oure towne of Canterbrigge where ye knights of ye shire shulde have ben chosen for ye said shire to have be present in oure Parlement now holden at Westm̃ after ye tenure of oure commaundement directed to oure shereve yere as we be enfourmed yer was such multitude of people as it seemed of lyklynesse ryotously gadered yat yelection of ye saide knightes myght nought be maad after ye tenure of oure said cōmaundement, withouten yat yat a grete rumour shoulde have fallen among oure poeple yere ꝛ And so it is yat ye next shire day is to be holden at oure saide town within short tyme amonge all oyer for ye election of ye knightes for oure said shire yei to be present in oure saide Parlement for such actis and matiers as shal be maad appointed and concluded in ye same ꝛ at ye which shire day and at all tymes we desire and wol oure pees to be kept ꝛ Therfor we wol and charge straitely yat ye see duely and diligently yat by noon of ye scolers of oure universitee of Canterbrigge whereof ye have ye gouvernance any ying be doon or attempted where yorough ye election of ye said knightes myght in any wise be letted or destourbed ꝛ and yat ye leve not yis as ye wol answere unto us at youre perill. Yeven &c. at Westm̃ ye xvij. day of Novembr̃.

To oure Chaunceller of Canterbrigge or to his commissarie yere.

Semble letters to ye Mair of Cambrigg to se duely and diligently yat by noon of ye comunaltee of ye said towne wherof he hath ye governance &c. any ying be done &c. ut supra.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian. C. xiv. f. 519. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to Lord Welles, dated 5th April, but the year is not stated. It was however apparently written towards the end of the reign of King Henry the Sixth.]

By the King.

WHERE amonge other your gret exorbitāces ye and William Taibois without havyng reverence to us or consideracon to oure lawes or of our high court of Parlement to þe which no doubt [but] confluence is not oonly of al maner psonages of our obeisaunce but also of many a straunger, nowe late brake our peax, to oure þe gretter displeasir, seth ye þerby in þat in you was have enpeched [oure] fame and renōmee outwarde amongt straungiers and our obeissaunce inwardt amongt our subgittt, lesse þanne we see it so punysshed þat it be ob to example, as ye have þto caused us, wher, aft your intollerable offence ye dissobeisauntly refusid to knowelege you bounden to oure peax, for þe which entent þe moste revende fadre in God Archibisshop of Cauntirbury our Chauncellr aft þat he had taken of þe said Tailbois covenable bonde sent þe Keper of our rolles of our chauncellary to have take semblable of you as we have knowlegege by his report, as also by your frowardly departing hastely towardt our contrey of your duelling as it is said to extende your gret offence ayenste us in ferther brech of our said peax in our liege people þe kynsmen frendt allies tenantt and fvantt

of þé said Tailbois now chargid to abide here to entende upon our cōmaundement. We inwardely considering þe premisses, by þadvis of oure Counsail charge you upon þe faith and legeaunce þat ye owe unto us þat ye in yor propre psone kepe and towardes your kinsmen allies tenantꝭ and fvantꝭ put you so in your devoir þat our peax be kept for you and thaim ayenste þe said Tailbois his kinsmen frendꝭ allies ~~and fvantꝭ~~ tenantꝭ and fvantꝭ as we have no cause to here any of thaim compleynyng to us of the contrarie. And þt all excusacons ceesing ye be in your propre psone before us and oure said Counsail in þe xvme. of Estre next cōmyng, and þt ye fail not herof nor of any thing before reherced upon payn of al þat ye may forfait to us and as ye wol eschewe our grevous indignacon. Yeven &c. at Westm þe v. day of April.

To þe Lorde Welles.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Vespasian, F. XIII. f. 42 *contemporary* MS.

Memoranda submitted to the King by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, to whom his Majesty had referred certain letters lately received from the Emperor on the subject of the Church, who was to suggest what answer should be returned thereto. The date of this article does not appear, nor can it be supplied with certainty. On the 28th November 19 Hen.VI, 1440, the King ordered that 100 crowns should be given to "Ostrigge," the messenger lately sent to him by his brother the Emperor respecting the peace of the Church, (*Vide* Fœdera vol. x. p. 834.) but at that time John Stafford, bishop of Bath, was Chancellor, who did not become Archbishop of Canterbury until May 1443. As, however, no Archbishop of Canterbury filled that office until 1443, and as the Duke of Gloucester died in 1446, these memoranda must have been written between those years. They appear to be in the hand of the Clerk of the Council who wrote the Minutes of the Council printed in this volume.]

THER' as þt þe Kyng sende unto my Lord of Caunt̃bury is ~~hs~~ Chaunceller hs lres undr hs signet, wt a lre þt late

þempour sende unto þe Kyng, willing my said Lord Chaunceller þt he shold see þe said lres þt cam so late from þempour and ordeine & prveie what answer þe Kyng sholde write ayen.

My said Lord Chaunceller, yif it lyke unto þe Kynge hieghnesse semeth þt for asmoche as þt þe matiere cōteigned in þe said Empoures lres beth of gret weight and [asken] gret & sad advises of þe Kynge uncles, my lord of Glouc & my Lord Cardinal & of oþ my lorde of hs blood & Counsail, þe which wol not be goodely doon but by a tract of tyme ~~the~~ and as him [semeth] but by þe space of a moneth, That þe Kyng write [hs lres of estate] unto þempor by his messang þe which broughte þe abovesaid lres unto þe Kyng, þat þe Kyng hath received hs broþes þempoures lres [day of þe moneth of . last passed] and wel undrestande þe matier compised wt inne hem, And for asmoche as þt þe matiere conteigned in þe said Empoures lres beth of grete weight wher inne & in sembles matiere the Kyng hath ber used & accustumed to be counsailled of, þe moost noblest lorde of hs blod & counsail the which alle þe tyme of þe last hervest [sesoñ] have ben & as yet beth ~~at þeir~~ in þeir contrees at þeir leisier & desporte as þe manier fourme and usage of þs land hath ben her befor and as yet is, The Kyng wol at such tyme as þt þei shal next assemble þe which shal be now in haste ~~ley~~ make þe said matiere be declared & shewed befor hem, and þeir advises þ inne had wt alle good deliberacon sende it by his messang unto þempour, wherby he shal knowe þe grete & fervent zele þt he hath to þe unioñ of þe chirch in manier & fourme as he ~~at all~~ & hs auncestres at alle tymes her befor as God knoweth have had.

Also ~~it semeth~~ yif it lyke unto þe Kynge hieghnesse it semeth unto my said Lord Chaunceller þt þe as evy

rea$^{e}$ ⁊ lordship̃ wel ruled̃ is goev̊ned̃ by grete forsigħt and ~~s~~ good̃ ⁊ sad̃ policye ⁊ advisinesse of Counsail ⸗ And þ$^{t}$ as him semetħ such̃ þingꝭ as þat ~~sh~~ ougħte to be doon̄ now in haste and also wer̃ necessari ⁊ behoveful to be doon̄ in þe begynnyng of þe next somer seson̄ [ougħten now in haste to be wel ⁊ advisely beten ⁊ laboured̃ by h$^{s}$ Consail] ⸗ That [þ⁊for̃] ~~wel~~ it wolde lyke unto þe K' hiegħnesse to do calle his Counsail such̃ as þ$^{t}$ him shal lyke to assemble at such̃ tyme place as also hī shal lyke ⸗ whenne ⁊ wher̃ shal be shewed̃ unto hē ~~such þingꝭ as þ$^{t}$ þe K' hatħ to do wherof~~ [by] my said̃ Lord̃ Chaunceller in alle þ$^{t}$ he can remembr̃ hī ~~wol~~ such̃ þingꝭ as þ$^{t}$ þe K' hatħ to do ⸗ the which̃ as hī semetħ betħ many and of grete weigħt.

Also yif it lyke unto þe K' it semetħ þ$^{t}$ þe said̃ ēpourꝭ messang⁊ have of þe Kꝭ reward̃ an c. scutꝭ ⁊ þ$^{t}$ he be deliv̊ed̃ w$^{t}$ þe said̃ ł̄res of estat ⁊c.

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[Bibl. Cotton. Titus. E. vi. f. 275. *contemporary* MS.

Letter from the King to the Keeper of the privy seal, dated on the 16th April, but the year is uncertain, commanding him to summon the knights and esquires therein named to attend the Council on the 21st of May following.]

By the King.

Righ't trusty and welbeloved ⸗ We wol and charge you ⸗ that under our̃ prive seel being in yo$^{r}$ warde . . . . . oure lettres sev̊ellꝭ to be directed to divers knigħtes and squyers whos names we sende . . . . . herinne closed after theffect and fourme here ensewing ⸗ Trusty and welbeloved ⸗ for . . . . . chargeable matiers concernyng gretly the wele of us ⸗ of this oure roy$^{me}$

ouř lordeshipp̃ . . . . . the whiche asken good̃ and sadde advis ⸗ we wol and charge you straitely that alle . . . . . and excusacions ceassing ye be with̃ us and oure Counsaille at oure . . . . . xxj. day of May next cōmyng to yeve youř good̃ advis in the saide matiers . . . . . unto you at youř cōmyng thider ⸗ and that ye leve not this as ye desire the wele . . . . . lordeshippes and subgiettꝭ abovesaide. Yeven ꝯtc^a ⸗ And thees oure l̃res shal . . . . . under oure signet at oure Palois of Westm̃ the xvj^e. day of Avril . . . . . .

| | |
|---|---|
| Buckꝭ | Joh̃nes Hampedeñ de Hampedeñ<br>Robertus Olney |
| Bedf | Johannes Brough̃toñ |
| Berkꝭ | Johannes Chaleus miles<br>Edwardus Langford̃ |
| Cornub̃ | Joh̃nes Colshill̃ miles |
| Cantebř | Edmundus Inglesthorp̃ miles |
| Cumbř | Henric̃ Fenwyk miles<br>Joh̃nes Penyngtoñ miles |
| Devoñ | Robertus Veer miles<br>Ph̃us Courtenay miles |
| Derb̃ | Joh̃nes Curson<br>Robertus Stauntoñ |
| Dorf | Will̃m̃s Stourtoñ miles<br>Will̃m̃s Carant |
| Estrith̃ | Joh̃nes Meltoñ jun^r miles<br>Robertus Conestable de Flaynburgh̃ |
| Westrithing | Will̃m̃s Plomptoñ miles<br>Joh̃nes Nevill̃ frater comitis Westm̃land̃ |

| | |
|---|---|
| Essex̃ | Thomas Tyrel miles.<br>Joħes Dorward̃ senior |
| Glouc̃ | Mauricius Berkeley de Beverstoñ miles<br>Thomas Mille |
| Hereford̃ | Joħnes Skidmore miles<br>Thomas Fitz Henri |
| Hertf | Joħnes Say<br>Willm̃s Cecill̃ |
| Hunt̃ | Thomas Westnhªm |
| Kanc̃ | Thomas Browne miles<br>Willm̃s Hextall̃<br>Joħnes Thornebury |
| Lyndesey | Ricus Watertoñ |
| Holand̃ | Johannes Haryngtoñ |
| Leycestr̃ | Leonardus Hastyngꝭ miles<br>Thomas Everingham |
| Midd̃ | Thomas Charltoñ miles<br>Thomas Frowik |
| Northt̃ | Willm̃s Lucy miles<br>Thomas Tresham |
| Notingh̃ | Willm̃s Babyngtoñ<br>Ricus Willughby |
| Norff | Thomas Tudenhªm miles<br>Milo Stapletoñ miles |
| Oxoñ | Robertus Harecourt miles<br>Edmūdus Hampden miles |
| Rotel̃ | Thomas Palmer |
| Surr̃ | Nicholaus Carrewe<br>Johannes Penycok̃ |

Susf { . . . . . .
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Sutht̃ { . . . . . .
. . . . . .

Somf { . . . . . .
. . . . . .

Suff { Robertus . . . .
Phus . . . .

Salop̃ { Johnes . . . . . .
Willms . . . . .

Staff { Johnes Hamptoñ
Johnes Stanley

Westm̃l { Thomas . . . . . .
Ričus . . . . . .

Wigorñ Johes . . . . .

Warr̃ { . . . . . . . .
Johes . . . . . .

Wilts̃ { . . . . . .
. . . . . .

# MEMORANDA OF THE DELIVERY OF THE GREAT SEAL DURING THE REIGN OF KING HENRY THE SIXTH.

[Rot. Claus. 1 Hen.VI. m. 21. in dorso.

Memorandum of the surrender of the Great Seal of gold by Thomas bishop of Durham, chancellor of England, to the King, at Windsor Castle, at the hour of vespers, on the 28th September, 1 Hen.VI. 1422, in consequence of the death of King Henry the Fifth at Bois de Vincennes in France, between the hours of two and three o'clock on Monday the 31st of August preceding; and of the delivery of the same, in the presence of the Council, by the hands of the Duke of Gloucester, to Simon Gaunstede, keeper of the rolls of Chancery, by whom it was conveyed to London. On the following day, Gaunstede, in the presence of the Bishop of Durham and other lords, sealed various letters patent in a chamber called "Le Sterne-chamere," in the palace of Westminster, and he retained the Seal until the 20th of November following, on which day, in full Parliament, he re-delivered it to the Duke of Gloucester, who, having countersealed the purse wherein it was contained, gave it to Nicholas Dixon, clerk, for the purpose of being deposited in the Treasury. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. x. p. 253; *vide* also Rot. Parl. vol. iv. pp. 170, 171.]

D liḃac̃oe Sigilli. } MEMORAND' q̃d defuncto nobili ꝛ potenti principe d̃no Henrico quinto ultimo Rege Angl̃ herede ꝛ regente regni Franc̃ p̃re d̃ni Henrici sexti nunc Regis Angl̃ ꝛ heredis regni Franc̃ ꝛ d̃ni Hiḃñ qui quidem Henr̃ nuper Rex ultimo die Augusti, videl̃t, die Lune p̃x̃ post festum Decollacionis

Sc̃i Joħis anno Dñi miłłimo quadringentesimo vicesimo sc̃do ⁊ regni ip̃ius Henrici nup Regis decimo int̃ sc̃dam ⁊ t̃ciam horam post mediam noctis apud Bos Vincent̃ in partibꝫ Franc̃ spiritum reddidit in manus Creatoris. Thomas ep̃us Dunolm̃ tunc cancellar̃ Angł vicesimo octavo die Septembr̃ tunc ꝑx̃ seqñ. videłt, in vigilia Sc̃i Micħis hora vespaꝝ apud castrum de Wyndesore in cam̃a ip̃ius đni Henrici Regis nunc magnū sigillum aureum đci đni Henrici nup Regis in quadam bursa albi corei sigillo p̃fati Cancellar̃ signata đco đno Henrico nunc Regi in p̃sencia ven̄abiliū patrum Henr̃ archiep̃i Cantuar̃ Henrici ep̃i Wyntoñ Pħi ep̃i Wygorñ Edmundi ep̃i Exoñ ⁊ Ric̃i ep̃i Lincolñ. ac Humfr̃i ducis Gloucestr̃ Pħi comitis Ormunđ Joħis đni de Talbot Wiłłi đni de Clyntoñ Mag̃ri Joħis Stafforđ custodis privati sigilli p̃đci đni Henrici nup Regis ⁊ Simonis Gaunstede custodis rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ ejusdem nup Regis ⁊ alioꝝ magnatum ibidem existencium liƀavit. ⁊ p̃fatus đns Rex nunc sigillum illud p manus p̃fati Ducis p̃đco Simoni liƀavit custodienđ. qui quidem Simon sigillum p̃đcm usq; Londoñ secum detulit et in crastino đci festi Sc̃i Micħis tunc ꝑx̃ seqñ in quadam cam̃a vocata le Sternechamere infra palacium đni Regis Westm̃ diṽsas łras patentes in p̃sencia p̃đci ep̃i Dunolm̃ ac alioꝝ đnoꝝ in eadem cam̃a existencium sigillm p̃đco sigillavit ⁊ sigillum illud usq; vicesimū diem Novembr̃ extunc ꝑx̃ seqñ sub sua custodia ħuit ⁊ custodivit. quo die idem Custos sigillum p̃đcm in quadam bursa p̃dc̃a sigillo suo sigillata p̃fato Duci in pleno Ꝑliamento existenti in p̃sencia đnoꝝ sp̃ualium ⁊ temporalium in eodem Ꝑliamento existeñ liƀavit. qui quidem Dux bagam p̃đcam sic signatam sigillo suo consignavit ⁊ dc̃m sigillum aureum in p̃đco Ꝑliamento Nicħo Dixsoñ cłico ⁊ noĩe Thes̃ Angł in thesaurar̃ đni Regis deferenđ ⁊ ibidem custodienđ t^a didit ⁊ liƀavit.

[Rot. Patent. 1 Hen.VI. p. 4. m. 19.

Letters Patent, dated 16th November, 1 Hen. VI. 1422, appointing Thomas bishop of Durham chancellor of England. *Vide* Rot. Parl vol. iv. pp. 171[b], 172. It does not, however, appear when eithe of the Great Seals was delivered to him: four days after his re appointment to the office of Chancellor, the Great Seal of *gold* wa given to the Duke of Gloucester in Parliament (see the record i the last page); but the only Seal there noticed is the Great Seal o *gold*, and it is no where stated that the Bishop of Durham resigne the Great Seal of *silver*.]

D Cancellario Anglie constituto. } R. omib3 ad quos &c. salt̃m Sciatis quod de avisamento & assensu totius Consilii ñri in p̃senti Parliamento ñro existeñ constituimus ven̄abilem p̃rem Thomam ep̃m Dunolm̃ cancellar̃ ñrm Anglie dantes & concedentes de avisamento & assensu p̃dcis eidem Cancellar̃ ñro om̃es & om̃imodas auctoritatem & potestatem ad ea om̃ia & singula que ad officium Cancellar̃ Angl̃ de jure sive consuetudine p̃tinent seu quovis tempore p̃tinere consueverunt vice nq̃e & loco ñris faciend̃ exc̃cend̃ exequend̃ & expediend̃ q[a]mdiu nob̃ placu̇it p̃cipiendo & h̃endo in officio illo vadia & feoda ac om̃ia alia & eisdem in singulis gaudendo p̃ut Cancellar̃ Angl̃ ante hec tempora h̃uerunt & p̃ceperunt ac aliquo tempore usi & gavisi fuerunt, mandantes insup & firmiu̇ p̃cipientes uniṽsis & singulis ligeis ñris regni ñri Angl̃ cujuscumq̃ status gradus seu condic̃ois fuerint quod eidem Cancellar̃ ñro in exc̃cicio & execuc̃oe officii illius de tempore in tempus in om̃ib3 obediant & intendant p̃ut decet. In cujus &c. T. R̃ apud Westm̃ xvj. die Novembr̃.

[Rot. Claus. 2 Hen.VI. m. 2. in dorso.

Memorandum of the surrender of the Great Seal of silver by Thomas bishop of Durham, chancellor of England, to the King about ten o'clock in the morning of Sunday the 16th July, 2 Hen.VI. 1424, in the chamber called "La Grete Chambre" in the castle of Hertford; and of the immediate delivery of the same, by the advice of the Council, to Henry bishop of Winchester, who took the oath of the office of Chancellor. On the same day he conveyed the seal to his palace of Saint Mary Overy, near Southwark, and on the day following sealed various charters, letters patent, and writs in the chapter house of the Friars Preachers within Ludgate, London. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. x. p. 340.]

De Magno Sigillo Regis de argento deliberando.

Memorand' qd die Dnica videlt sextodecimo die Julii anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum scdo venabilis pat Thomas epus Dunolm tunc cancellarius ipius dni Regis magnū sigillum ejusdem dni Regis de argento in quadam baga de corio sigillo ipius pi signata inclusum in psencia Humfri ducis Gloucestrie vunculi dci domini Regis ac venabilium patrum Henici epi Wyntoñ t Phi epi Wygorñ necnon Rici comitis Warr magri Johis Stafford clici thes Angl Radi dni de Crumwell chivaler Lodowici Robessart chivaler Walti Hungerford chivaler senescalli hospicii dci dni Regis Johis Tiptoft chivaler t Magri Willi Alnewyk custodis privati sigilli ipius dni Regis pfato domino Regi apud castrum suū de Hertford in quadam camra vocata La Grete Chambre circa horam decimam ante nonam ejusdem diei Dnice libavit, idemq; dns Rex sigillum illud de pfato Epo Dunolm manu sua ppria recepit, ac dcus dnus Rex de avisamento t assensu Consilii sui incontinenti sigillum pdcm in baga pdca sic inclusum pfato Epo Wyntoñ cujus sacrm de officio Cancellarii bene t fideliter faciendo pfatus dns Rex recepit infra castrum pdcm in camra pdca in psencia oim t singulor pmissor ac alior libavit t secum ad hospicium suū de Seint

Marie Ov̄ey apud Suthwerk eodem die deferri fecit, et die Lune tunc p̄x̄ seqñ idem Ep̄us Wyntoñ in domo capitulari fr̄um p̄dicator̄ infra Ludgate Londoñ circa horam quartam post nonā in p̄sencia Joh̄is Frank custodis rotulor̄ cancellar̄ d̄ci domini Regis Joh̄is Hertilpole cl̄ici Joh̄is Rouland cl̄ici Henrici Kays custodis hanap̄ii ejusdem cancellar̄ Joh̄is Mapiltoñ cl̄ici ⁊ Nich̄i Wymbyssh̄ cl̄ici ac alior̄ ibidem existeñ div̄sa cartas l̄ras patentes ⁊ br̄ia p̄ut moris est in eor̄ p̄sencia in expeditione p̄sequeñ sigillari fecit.

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[Rot. Claus. 4 Hen.VI. m. 8. in dorso.

Memorandum stating that on the 14th March, 4 Hen.VI. 1426, about the third hour after noon, John duke of Bedford brought the King's Great Seal of *silver* in a bag of white leather, countersealed by the Bishop of Winchester, the late chancellor, to Leicester Castle; and there, in the presence of the Council and others, after having sealed some letters patent and writs of common law, replaced it in the bag, and caused it to be deposited in the house of the Friars Preachers of that town; whence he himself conveyed it, on the 16th of the same month, to the abbey of St. Mary de Pratis, Leicester, and delivered it to the King, by whom it was consigned to the custody of the Bishop of London, who took the oath of Chancellor, and on the following day sealed various letters patent and writs at his residence in Leicester College. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. x. p. 353. On the 18th of March the Great Seal of *gold* was placed in the hands of the Duke of Bedford, in Parliament, who immediately delivered it to the custody of John bishop of London, "then chancellor," by the advice and assent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal there present. *Vide* Rot. Parl. vol. iv. p. 299. The Bishop of Winchester resigned the chancellorship in the same Parliament on the 13th March. *Ibid.* John Kemp, bishop of London, was translated to the see of York on the 8th April following, and continued Chancellor.]

D̄ memorand̄ sup̄ lib̄acōe Magni Sigilli Regis irrotulat̄. } Memorand' q̄d quarto decimo die Marcii anno regni Regis Henr̄ sexti quarto Joh̄es dux Bed̄ magnū sigillum d̄ni Regis de argento

in quadam baga de albo corio cum sigillo venabilis pris Henr epi Wyntoñ nup cancellarii Angl consignat usq; castrum dni Regis de Leycestr circa vciam horam post nonam secum deferri t ibidem in scda camra superiori post magnam aulam Pliamenti in psencia venabiliū patrum Henr Cantuar archiepi Joñis Londoñ Phi Wygorñ t Joñis Bathoñ t Welleñ epoz ac nobiliū principum Humfri ducis Glouc t Thome ducis Exoñ necnon Humfri comitis Staff Lodowici Robessart camrarii dni Regis Joñis dni Lescrop Willi Alnewyk clici custodis privati sigilli dni Regis t Joñis Frank clici custodis rotuloz cancellar ejusdem dni Regis ac alioz ibidem tunc existeñ sigillum illud a baga pdca sumi t extahi t cum illo duas lras patentes de recommendacõe p ctis vitoribz familiaribz t officiar Ducis Burgund penes dnm Regem in regnum suū Angl t penes pfatum Ducem Bed ex ctis causis ventur put p easdem lras in rotulis cancellar ipius dni Regis irrotulatas satis liquet t diversa bria cõis legis tre sigillar t idem sigillum in psencia pdca in dcam bagam reponi t suo sigillo ac sigillo pdci Custodis rotuloz cõmuniri t secum ad hospicium suū ad domū fratrum pdicatoz Leycestr deferri fecit custodiend ac die Sabbi tunc px seqñ videlt sextodecimo die ejusdem mensis Marcii pfatus Dux Bed sigillum pdcm in eadem baga sigillis pdcoz Ducis Bed t Custodis rotuloz consignat coram dco dno Rege in camra sua infra abbiam B'e Marie de Pratis Leycestr existeñ manu sua ppria detulit t sigillum pdcm pfato dno Regi ibidem libavit ac idem dns Rex sigillum illud capto prius a pfato Epo Londoñ sacro suo modo consueto eidē Epo Londoñ dco die Sabbi in psencia pdcoz Ducum Bed t Gloucestr ac Walti Hungerford militis thes Angl Joñis Scrop militis Joñis Tiptoft militis t pdci Custodis rotuloz ac alioz plurimoz ibidem tunc existeñ incontinenti libavit idemq; Epus Londoñ recepto sigillo pdco sigillum illud usq; hospiciū

suū infra collegiū Leycestr̃ secum deferri fecit ꝛ in eodem hospicio die Dñica tunc ꝑx̃ seqñ sigillo ꝑđco divꝰsa ł̃ras patentes ꝛ br̃ia de cursu sigillavit.

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[Rot. Claus. 10 Hen.VI. m. 8. in dorso.

Memorandum stating that on the 25th February, 10 Hen.VI. 1432, about the fourth hour after noon, John archbishop of York, the chancellor, in the presence of the Council and others, in the Council Chamber of Parliament near the Great Chamber of Parliament at Westminster, delivered to the King his two Great Seals, one being of gold and the other of silver, contained in bags of white leather sealed with his (the Archbishop's) own seal; that the Duke of Gloucester then immediately received those seals from the King and retained them in his hands until the Tuesday following (the 27th February), about four o'clock in the afternoon, on which day, in a chamber near the King's Chamber in the inner palace at Westminster, in the presence of the Council and many other persons, he presented them to the King, who immediately delivered them to John bishop of Bath, he having previously taken the oath of Chancellor. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. x. p. 501.]

Ð Sigillis Regis lib̃anđ. } MEMORAND' q̃d die Sc̃i Mathei Ap̃li videł̃t xxv. die Februarii anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum decimo circa horam quartam post nonam ejusdem diei Joħes archiep̃us Eboꝝ Anglie primas tunc cancellar̃ Anglie duo magna sigilla ip̃ius domini Regis videł̃t unum de auro ꝛ aliud de argento in duabꝫ bagis de albo corio sigillo ejusdem Archiep̃i signatis inclusa ꝑfato dño Regi in camꝰa sua vocata le Counseil Chambre del Ꝑlement ꝓpe Magnam Camꝰam Parliamenti apud Westm̃ in ꝑsencia Humfr̃i ducis Gloucestr̃ Henr̃ archiep̃i Cantuar̃ Joħis Bathoñ Pħi Elieñ Wiłł̃i Lincolñ Wiłł̃i Norwiceñ ꝛ Wiłł̃i Roff ep̃oꝝ Joħis ducis Norff Joħis Huntyngdoñ Ric̃i

Warr̃ ꝛ Willi Suff comitum necnon Joh̃is Tiptoft senescalli hospicii d̃ni Regis Joh̃is Lescrop ꝛ Walt̃i Hungerford̃ militum ac alioꝝ ibidem existeñ liber̃avit, qui quidem Dux Gloucestr̃ eadem sigilla regia penes se incontinenti cepit ꝛ secum deferri fecit ꝛ ea usq; diem Martis tunc p̃x sequeñ custodivit quo die circa horam quartam post nonam idem Dux Gloucestr̃ p̃fato d̃no Regi sigilla sua p̃d̃ca in bagis p̃d̃cis ut p̃mittit' signatis in quadam cam̃a juxta cam̃am regiam in int̃iori palacio apud Westm̃ in p̃sencia p̃d̃coꝝ archiep̃oꝝ ducum comitum ꝛ militum ac Joh̃is Frank cl̃ici custodis rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ ejusdem domini Regis ꝛ Nich̃i Wymbyssh cl̃ici ejusdem domini Regis de cancellar̃ p̃d̃ca ꝛ diṽsoꝝ alioꝝ adtunc ibidem existencium manibꝫ suis p̃priis p̃sentavit, ac idem d̃ns Rex sigillis p̃d̃cis p ip̃m receptis sigilla illa incontinenti capto prius a p̃fato Ep̃o Bathoñ sacr̃o suo modo consueto eidem Ep̃o Bathoñ in p̃sencia p̃d̃coꝝ archiep̃oꝝ ducum comitum militum Custodis rotuloꝝ ꝛ Nich̃i ac q̃mplurium alioꝝ ibidem tunc existeñ liber̃avit, idemq; Ep̃us Bathoñ receptis sigillis regiis p̃d̃cis sigilla illa usq; hospicium suū in parochia Sc̃i Clementis Dacoꝝ ext̃ barram Novi Templi Londoñ secum deferri fecit ac die Mercurii tunc p̃x sequeñ d̃cm sigillum de argento usq; Westm̃ secum deferri ꝛ illud a baga qua includebat' sumi ꝛ extrahi fecit ꝛ ibidem l̃ras d̃ni Regis patentes p̃fato Joh̃i Lescrop de officio thes̃ sc̃acii Regis confcas ac quoddam br̃e baronibꝫ de sc̃acio p̃d̃co directum in p̃sencia Willi Prestwyk Nich̃i Wymbyssh ꝛ Joh̃is Stopyngdon cl̃icoꝝ cancellar̃ p̃d̃ce ac alioꝝ sigillavit.

[Rot. Claus. 11 Hen.VI. m. 12. in dorso.

Memorandum stating that on the 22nd April, 11 Hen.VI. 1433, between the sixth and seventh hours after noon, John Frank, clerk, keeper of the rolls of chancery, by virtue of a writ to him directed, dated on the 15th of that month, a copy of which is annexed, received from John Stopyndon, clerk, on behalf of the Chancellor of England, the King's Great Seal of silver, to be retained and used by him during the absence of the Bishop of Bath, the chancellor, in France; and that he redelivered the same to the said Bishop in his chamber in his palace without the bar of the New Temple of London, between the tenth and eleventh hours before noon, on the 23rd of May following. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. x. p. 549. John Stafford, bishop of Bath, was translated to Canterbury, by bull dated on the 15th May, and obtained restitution of the temporalities of that see on the 25th June, 21 Hen. VI. 1443, and retained the office of Chancellor.]

D Sigillo Regio Custodi rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ R. lib̃ato custodiend̃. } MEMORAND' q̃d vicesimo sc̃do die Aprilis anno p̃senti int̃ horam sextam t̃ horam septimam post nonam Joh̃es Frank cl̃icus custos rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ d̃ni Regis p̃textu cujusdam br̃is regii sibi directi recepit de Joh̃e Stopyndoñ cl̃ico ex parte Dñi Cancellarii Angl̃ magnū sigillum regiū de argento ad occupand̃ t̃ exc̃cend̃ idem sigillum put eidem Custodi p p̃d̃cm br̃e p̃cipit^r, cujus tenor sequitur in hec ṽba, Henricus Dei gr̃a Rex Angl̃ t̃ Franc̃ t̃ d̃ns Hib̃ñ dil̃co cl̃ico suo Joh̃i Frank custodi rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ ñre, salt̃m. Cum nos de avisamento Consilii ñri appunctuaṽim⁹ t̃ ordinaṽim⁹ q̃d carissimus avunculus ñr Humfr̃us dux Glouc̃ t̃ nōnulli consiliarii ñri regni ñri Angl̃ cū p̃carissimo eciam avunculo ñro Joh̃e duce Bedfordie t̃ aliis consiliariis ñris regni ñri Francie in villa ñra Calesius ob c̃ta negocia bonū publicum regnoꝝ ñroꝝ Francie t̃ Angl̃ conc̃nencia inibi tractanda convenire debeant int̃ quos psonam ven̄abilis p̃ris Ep̃i Bathoñ cancellarii ad convenien̄d̃ una cū eis

ibidem p negociis hujusmodi assignavim⁹ p tractand nolentes q̃d in absencia sua t ppt eam justicia t execucio legum consuetudinū sive statutoꝝ regni ñri Angl in cancellar ñra quovismodo retardentr quin pocius q̃d cuilt intim in dca cancellar ñra psequi volenti justicie complementū impendatr Volum⁹ t pfato Cancellario ñro de avisamento t assensu Consilii ñri pdci p br̃e ñrm de privato sigillo mandavim⁹ quatinus magnū sigillum ñrm in custodia sua existens p tempore absencie sue hujusmodi ad t in manus v̄ras libet seu libari faciat usq; ad reditum suū custodiend ad finem t effc̄m q̃d vos in absencia sua sigillum illud occupare t execuc̄oem reꝝ justicie ac cursus cancellar ñre pdce face valeatis t exc̄cere put decet Et ideo vob mandam⁹ q̃d sigillum ñrm pdcm ab eo qui illud vob ex parte pfati Cancellarii ñri libabit recipiatis et intim illud ad usum pdcm occupetis t cet̄a pmissa fac̄ in forma pdca ac sigillum pdcm eidem Cancellar ñro in reditu suo relibetis. T. me ipo apud Westm̄ xv. die Aprilis anno r. n. undecimo. P br̃e de privato sigillo. Et memorand q̃d postea videlt vicesimo tcio die Maii tunc px̄ sequente int horam decimam et horam undecimam ante nonam pfatus Custos relibavit pfato Cancellario in cam̄a sua infra hospiciū suū ext[a] barram Novi Templi Londoñ sigillum pdcm juxta formam br̃is pdci.

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[Rot. Claus. 28 Hen.VI. m. 7. in dorso.

Memorandum stating that on Saturday the 31st January, 28 Hen.VI. 1450, between the eleventh and twelfth hours before noon, John archbishop of Canterbury, chancellor of England, in the presence of the Council and others, in the Council Chamber of Parliament near the Great Chamber of Parliament at Westminster, delivered to the King his two Great Seals, one of gold and the other of silver, con-

tained in bags of white leather, sealed with the seal of the said Archbishop; that, after an interval of about half an hour, the King caused the said silver seal to be taken from the bag, and having sealed two instruments with it, again deposited it therein, and sealed it with his signet; that he immediately delivered to the Archbishop of York (he having previously taken the oath of Chancellor) both the said seals, and another seal of silver, contained in a leather bag sealed with divers seals in red wax, which had been brought from the treasury by the King's command, and that the Chancellor conveyed the said seals to his residence near Charing Cross, and on the same day sealed, with the silver seal, some letters patent and various writs. *Vide* also Rot. Parl., vol. v. p. 172. John Kemp, archbishop of York, was translated to Canterbury on the 10th April, 29 Hen. VI. 1451.]

D memorando irrotulat. } MEMORAND' q̃d die Sabbi videlt tricesimo primo die Januarii anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum vicesimo octavo int̃ horam undecimam ꝛ horam duodecimam ante nonam ejusdem diei Joh̃es archiep̃us Cantuar̃ tocius Anglie primas tunc cancellarius Anglie duo magna sigilla ip̃ius domini Regis unum de auro ꝛ aliud de argento in duab; bagis de albo corio sigillo ejusdem Archiep̃i signatis inclusa prefato domino Regi in cam̃a sua vocat̃ le Counsell Chaumbre del Parliament ꝑpe Magnam Cam̃am Parliamenti apud Westm̃ in p̃sencia Joh̃is cardinalis ꝛ archiep̃i Eboz̃ Will̃i Wyntoñ Marmaduci Karlioleñ Thome Elieñ Thome Bathoñ ꝛ Welleñ Walt̃i Norwiceñ Will̃i Coventreñ ꝛ Lich̃ ꝛ Thome Bangoreñ ep̃oz̃, Humfr̃i ducis Buk̃ Henr̃ Northumbr̃ Joh̃is Oxoñ ꝛ Jacobi Wiltes̃ comitum ac Joh̃is vicecomitis Beaumont Rad̃i Sudely senescalli hospicii ip̃ius d̃ni Regis Rad̃i Cromwell Joh̃is de Dudely Joh̃is Beauchamp̃ militum ꝛ alioz̃ ibidem tunc existeñ, lib̃avit ꝛ ea supª scabellum sup quod idem dominus Rex sedebat deponebat quib; sic depositis idem dominus Rex fco quodam int̃vallo quasi p spacium dimid̃ hore d̃cm sigillum de argento a baga qua includebatr sumi ꝛ extrahi fecit ꝛ

ibidem ł̄ras suas patentes de ꝑdonac̃oe p̄fato Archiep̃o Cantuar̃ conf̄cas ac quoddam br̃e ꝑ Joħe Talbot milite sigillari đcmq; sigillum in eandem bagam it̄um reincludi ⁊ bagam illam signeto suo signari fecit et tunc incontinente idem dominus Rex capto de p̄fato Cardinale ⁊ archiep̃o Eboꝝ sacr̃o suo modo consueto in p̄sencia p̄đci Archiep̃i Cantuar̃ ep̃oꝝ ducis comitum militum ac Thome Kirkeby cl̄ici custodis rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ ejusdem đni Regis ⁊ Ric̃i Frystoñ cl̄ici ejusdem đni Regis de cancellar̃ p̄đca ac qᵃmplurium alioꝝ ibidem tunc existeñ sigilla p̄đca in bagis p̄đcis inclusa, ac quoddam aliud sigillum regium de argento in quadam alia baga de corio div̄sis sigillis de rubea cera sigillata inclusum in thesaurar̃ ip̃ius domini Regis ꝑprius existens ⁊ eidem đno Regi in eadem cam̄a de mandato suo ꝑ Joħem Fray deputatum Jacobi Fenys militis thes̃ Angł̄ delatum eidem Cardinali ⁊ Archiep̃o adtunc ⁊ ibidem in eadem presencia lib̄avit, ac idem Cardinalis ⁊ Archiep̃us receptis sigillis regiis p̄đcis eadem sigilla usq; ad hospicium suum juxta Charyncrosse in com̃ Midđ secum deferri fecit et eodem die ibidem videł̄t int̄ horam t̄ciam et horam quartam post nonam ejusdem diei p̄đcm sigillum de argento in custodia p̄đci Archiep̃i Cantuar̃ nuꝑ existeñ a baga qua ut p̄dicitʳ inclusum fuit sumi ⁊ extrahi fecit ⁊ ł̄ras p̄fati đni Regis patentes quibusdam Joħi Brokeman de Rumford in com̃ Essex̃ husbondman ⁊ Juliane ux̄i ejus de ꝑdonac̃oe utlagar̃ in ip̃m Joħem Brokeman ⁊ waiviar̃ in ip̃am Julianam ꝑmulgat̃ conf̄cas ac nonnulla div̄sa br̃ia originalia ⁊ alia in quadam baga contenta in p̄sencia p̄đci Custodis rotuloꝝ Joħis Faukes Wiłł̄i Hiłł̄ Ric̃i Wettoñ Rob̄ti Kirkham ⁊ Ric̃i Frystoñ cl̄icoꝝ cancellar̃ pređce ac alioꝝ sigillavit.

[Rot. Claus. 32 Hen. VI. m. 8. in dorso.

Memorandum, stating that between the eleventh and twelfth hour of Monday the 2nd of April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454, Richard earl of Warwick, John earl of Worcester, the treasurer of England, and John viscount Bourchier, brought into the Great Chamber of Parliament at Westminster, in the presence of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, then being in Parliament, and of others, a wooden chest, locked and sealed with the seals of Richard duke of York, the King's lieutenant in the present Parliament, of William archbishop of York, William bishop of Winchester, and Thomas bishop of Ely, and of Richard earl of Salisbury, containing the King's three great seals, one being of gold and the other two of silver, which at the time of the death of John late cardinal and archbishop of Canterbury, chancellor of England, were in his custody; that the said chest having been placed upon the bench whereon the said Lieutenant sat, he, after having administered to the Earl of Salisbury the oath of Chancellor, caused it to be opened, and delivered the said seals to the said Earl, by whom they were again deposited in the chest, and afterwards conveyed to his residence in the city of London, called "Le Erber," where he, on the same day, sealed letters of pardon upon an assignment of dower to Anne duchess of Exeter, and divers writs. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 344, and on the Rolls of Parliament, vol. v. p. 449. *Vide* also Rot. Parl., vol. v. pp. 240, 241.]

MEMORAND' q̃d die Lune videl't secundo die Aprilis anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tricesimo secundo inter horam undecimam & duodecimam ejusdem diei Ric̃us comes Warr̃ Joh̃es comes Wygorn̄ thes̄ Anglie & Joh̃es vicecomes Beaumont quandam cistam ligneam seratam & sigillis Ric̃i ducis Eboz̄ locumtenentis d̃ci d̃ni Regis in presenti Parliamento Will'i archiep̄i Eboz̄ ac Will'i Wynton̄ & Thome Elien̄ ep̄oz̄ necnon Ric̃i comitis Saz̄ sigillatam in Magnam Cameram Parliamenti apud Westm̄ in presencia prefati Locumtenentis & pred̃coz̄ Archiep̄i Eboz̄ & Comitis Saz̄ ac Rob̃ti Dunolmen̄ Reginaldi Coventren̄ & Lich̄ Walt̃i Norwicen̄ Johannis Lincoln̄ Joh̃is Wygorn̄ Ric̃i Saz̄ Johannis Hereford̄ & Will'i

Karlioleñ ep̃oꝝ necnon Johannis Norff ⁊ Humfr̃i Buk̃ ducum Jaspi Pembroch̃ Jacobi Wiltes̃ Thome Devoñ Johannis Oxoñ ⁊ Johannis Salop̃ comitum Henr̃ vicecomitis Bourghchier ⁊ Rob̃ti prioris Sancti Joh̃is Jerl̃m in Angl̃ ac Edmundi Grey de Ruthyn Will̃i Bourghchier Will̃i Nevyle Edwardi Nevyle Ric̃i Willughby Rad̃i Graystok Joh̃is Duddeley ⁊ Johannis Stourtoñ militum ac alioꝝ dominoꝝ sp̃ualium ⁊ temporalium in pred̃co Parliamento tunc existeñ necnon Thome Kirkeby custodis rotuloꝝ cancellar̃ d̃ci domini Regis Joh̃is Faukes Will̃i Hill̃ Roberti Kirkeham Will̃i Normantoñ ⁊ Ric̃i Fryston cl̃icoꝝ ejusdem domini Regis de cancellar̃ p̃d̃ca secum detulerunt in quam quidem cistam tria magna sigilla ip̃ius d̃ni Regis unū videl̃t de auro ⁊ alia duo de argento in custodia Joh̃is nup cardinalis ⁊ archiep̃i Cantuarieñ tunc defuncti tempore obit⁹ sui quo tempore ip̃e Cancellarius Anglie fuit existeñ in cam̃a suprad̃ca de assensu d̃noꝝ sup^a d̃coꝝ ꝑprius videl̃t d̃co die obitus d̃ci Cancellarii post mortem ejusdem Cancellarii posita ac sub sigillis pred̃coꝝ Locumtenentis Archiep̃i Eboꝝ Ep̃oꝝ Wyntoñ ⁊ Elieñ prefatiq; Comitis Saꝝ sigillata in thesauraria ip̃ius d̃ni Regis ibidem salvo custodiend̃ lib̃ata extiterunt quam quidem cistam cū sigillis pred̃coꝝ Locumtenentis Archiep̃i Eboꝝ Ep̃oꝝ Wyntoñ ⁊ Elieñ ac d̃ci Comitis Saꝝ sigillatam cum d̃cis sigillis de auro ⁊ argento infra cistam illam inclusis in d̃cam cameram d̃co die Lune ut prefertur delatam iidem Comites Warr̃ ⁊ Wygorñ ac Vicecomes Beaumont sup quoddam scabellū sup quod idem Locumtenens tunc sedebat deposuerunt qua ibidem sic deposita ac f̃co quodam int̃vallo quasi ꝑ spacium quarte partis unius hore acceptoq; ꝑ prefatum Comitem Saꝝ on̄e exc̃cii occupac̃ois ⁊ execuc̃ois officii cancellariatus Anglie captoq; sacr̃o suo tunc ibidem de officio illo bene ⁊ fideliter ꝑ ip̃m exc̃cendo occupando ⁊ fiendo more solito

idem Locumtenens ꝺcam cistam apiri fecit ꝯ unū magnū sigillum de argento videlt unum ꝺcoꝝ trium sigilloꝝ in ꝺca cista sic inclusoꝝ a baga qua tunc includebatur sumi ꝯ extⁿhi ꝯ prefato Comiti Saꝝ simul cum preꝺcis aliis duobus sigillis uno videlt de auro ꝯ alio de argento in bagis suis separatim ut prefertur inclusis liberari fecit quo ꝑacto idem Comes Saꝝ ꝺcm magnū sigillum a baga sua ut preꝺcm est extractū in eandem bagam reincludi fecit bagam illam cum sigillo suo ꝑprio adtunc cōmuniendo necnon sigillū illud sic a cista preꝺca extractum in eandem cistam reponi cistamq; illam cum sigillo illo ac aliis duobꝫ sigillis preꝺcis uno videlt de auro ꝯ alio de argento infra eandem cistam inclusis serari ꝯ sigillo suo ꝑprio supraꝺco consignari similiter fecit eandem cistam usq; domū ħitacōis sue infra civitatem Londoñ vulgariter nuncupatam le Erber deportari faciendo in qua quidem domo ħitacionis sue eodem die videlt circa horam ꝺciam post meridiem ejusdem diei prefatus Comes Saꝝ in quadam longa camꝺa infra eandem domū quasdam ħras ꝺni Regis patentes carissime consanguinee ꝺci ꝺni Regis Anne ducisse Exoñ de pardonacōe sup assignacōe dotis sue ꝑ prefatum ꝺnm Regem de assensu ꝺcoꝝ ꝺnoꝝ sꝑualium ꝯ temporalium in Parliamento preꝺco existeñ facꝯ necnon diversa bꝛia originalia cum illo magno sigillo incluso infra ꝺcam bagam sigillo ejusdem Comitis Saꝝ ut supraꝺcm est consignato in presencia preꝺcoꝝ Epi Dunolmeñ ꝯ Willi Nevile ac predictoꝝ Custodis rotuloꝝ Joħis Faukes Willi Hill Roꝺti Kirkeham Willi Normanꝺ toñ ꝯ Riči Frystoñ sigillari fecit.

[Rot. Claus. 33 Hen. VI. 1455. m. 9. in dorso.

Memorandum, stating that on Friday the 7th of March, 33 Hen. VI. 1455, between the hours of eleven and twelve, Richard earl of Salisbury, the chancellor, in a certain small chapel over the gate at Greenwich, in the presence of the Council and others, placed upon a bench before the King, a Great Seal of silver contained in a bag of black leather, and two other Great Seals, one of gold and the other of silver, contained in two bags of white leather, and sealed with his own seal; which seals the King, after the lapse of half an hour, delivered to Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, he having previously taken the oath of Chancellor. The bags having been opened, the Archbishop examined the seals, replaced them therein, and conveyed them to his palace at Lambeth, where he, on the same day, sealed letters patent of pardon of outlawry in favour of John Morton, late of Greenwich, clerk, and divers writs.]

Memorand' q̃d die Ven̄is videl̄t septimo die Marcii anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tricesimo tercio int̄ horam undecimam ꝛ duodecimam ejusdem diei apud Grenewich̄ in quadam parva capella sup[a] portam ibidem in presencia prefati d̄ni Regis Thome archiep̄i Cantuar̄ Will̄i ep̄i Karlioleñ Edmundi Som̄s ꝛ Humfr̄i Bukyngh̄ ducum Henrici Northumbr̄ ꝛ Jacobi Wiltes̄ comitum Joh̄is Beaumont ꝛ Henrici Bourghchier vicecomitum Thome Clifford Thome Descales Will̄i Fitz Wareñ ꝛ Joh̄is Barners militum Thome Kirkeby custodis rotulor̄ cancellar̄ d̄ci domini Regis Rob̄ti Kirkham ꝛ Ric̄i Fryston cl̄icor̄ ejusdem d̄ni Regis de cancellar̄ sup[a]d̄ca aliar̄q; notabilium p̄sonar̄ tunc ibidem int̄essencium Ric̄us comes Sar̄ cancellarius Anglie unū magnū sigillum ip̄ius domini Regis de argento in quadam baga de nigro corrio ac duo alia magna sigilla ejusdem d̄ni Regis unū videl̄t de auro ꝛ aliud de argento in duab; bagis de albo corrio separatim inclusa ꝛ in custodia prefati Cancellarii p̄rius existeñ ac sigillo suo sigillata sup

quoddam scabellum coram eodem domino Rege ibidem deposuit quibꝫ ibidem sic depositis ac factꝫ quodam intvallo quasi ꝑ spacium dimidꝫ unius hore acceptoqꝫ ꝑ prefatum Archiepm onle excicii occupacois ⁊ execucois officii cancellariatus Angl et capto sacro suo tunc ibidem de officio illo bene ⁊ fideliter ꝑ ipm excendo occupando ⁊ fiendo more solito prefatus dns Rex predcas tres bagas apiri ⁊ sigilla predca ab eisdem sumi ⁊ extrahi fecit ⁊ demandavit ea sic extacta ⁊ eoꝝ quodlt ibidem ꝑfecte inspiciendo quo fco idem dns Rex eadem sigilla in bagas predcas ipum separatim reponi ⁊ reincludi ⁊ sigillo predci Archiepi consignari fecit bagas illas cum dcis tribꝫ sigillis in eisdem ut prefertur inclusis ꝑfato Archiepo adtunc ⁊ ibidem delibando quo ꝑacto idem Archiepus sigilla predca in bagis predcis sic inclusa usqꝫ domum hitacois sue apud Lambhithe deportari fecit, in qua quidem domo eodem die videlt inter horam quartam ⁊ quintam post meridiem ejusdem diei prefatus Archiepus in quadam interiori camra sua ibidem quasdam lras prefati dni Regis patentes de ꝑdonacoe utlagar in Johem Morton nup de Grenewyche in com Kanc clicum ꝑmulgar necnon diversa brria originalia cum illo magno sigillo in dca baga de nigro corrio ut predcm est inclus in presencia prefatoꝝ Custodis rotuloꝝ Robti Kirkeham ⁊ Rici Fryston ac Rici Wettoñ ⁊ Johis Derby clicoꝝ cancellar domini Regis supdict ⁊ alioꝝ sigillari fecit.

[Rot. Claus. 35 Hen.VI. m. 10. in dorso.

Memorandum, stating that on the 11th October, 35 Hen.VI. 1456, Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, the chancellor, in the presence of the Council and others, in a chamber in the priory of Coventry, surrendered to the King his three Great Seals, namely, one of gold, one of silver, and a smaller one also of silver, which the King delivered to William bishop of Winchester, who was then appointed Chancellor, took his oath of office, and sealed certain letters patent of pardon. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 384.]

MEMORAND' q̃d undecimo die Octobris anno presenti venabilis pat̃ Thomas archiep̃us Cantuar̃ tocius Angl̃ primas ⁊ cancellarius Angl̃ in p̃sencia venabilium patrum Thome ep̃i Londoñ Joh̃is ep̃i Lincolñ Thome ep̃i Wygorñ ⁊ Reginaldi ep̃i Coventr̃ ⁊ Lich̃ necnon honorabilium dominoꝝ Ric̃i ducis Eboꝝ Humfr̃i ducis Buk̃ Henr̃ ducis Som̃s Jacobi comitis Wilteš ⁊ Joh̃is comitis Salop̃ theš Angl̃ ac alioꝝ q[a]mplurimum d̃noꝝ sp̃ualium ⁊ temporalium exhibuit domino Regi in cam̃a sua infra prioratum de Coventre tria sigilla sua regia in tribꝫ bagis de corio sub sigillo pred̃ci Cancellarii sigillatis inclusa unū videl̃t magnū sig̃illum aureum ac aliud sigillum argenteum de magna forma ⁊ tercium sigillum argenteum de minori forma quas quidem bagas pred̃cus Cancellarius adtunc ⁊ ibidem ap̃iri fecit ⁊ singula om̄ia sigilla p̃d̃ca manibꝫ suis ꝑpriis p̃fato domino Regi in p̃sencia dominoꝝ pred̃coꝝ ibidem lib̃avit ac idem d̃ns Rex recep̃t ꝑ ip̃m de pred̃co Cancellario sigillis sup[a]d̃cis prefatum Archiep̃m̃ de officio Cancellarii ⁊ de sigillis p̃d̃cis penitus exon̄avit ⁊ eadem sigilla ven̄abili p̃ri Will̃o ep̃o Wyntoñ adtunc cancellario Angl̃ ꝑ p̃fatum d̃nm Regem ordinato ⁊ constituto ad eadem sigilla salvo ⁊ secure custodiend̃ occupand̃ ⁊ exc̄end̃ necnon ad b̃ria ⁊ l̃ras p̃d̃ci d̃ni Regis patentes cum sigillis illis quociens opus fu̇it ⁊ necesse ꝑ cōmodo ⁊ utilitate ejusdem d̃ni Regis ac regni d̃nioꝝ ⁊ p̃p̃li suoꝝ sigilland̃ ⁊ *sigillari faciend̃ lib̃avit* p̃d̃cusq; Ep̃us Wyntoñ

prestito p ip̃m in p̃sencia đci domini Regis ⁊ đnoꝝ pre-đcoꝝ prius sac̃ro in forma consueta de officio illo bene ⁊ fideliť faciend̃ ⁊ exc̃cend̃ p̃đca sigilla a p̃fato đno Rege recepit ac quasdam l̃ras patentes de pardonac̃oe p̃fato Archiep̃o p̃đco undecimo die Octobr̃ conf̃cas cū p̃đco sigillo argenteo de magna forma sigillari deinde om̃ia ⁊ singula sigilla sup^a đca in bagis p̃đcis reponi ⁊ bagas illas signeto suo p Joħem Bate unū cl̃icoꝝ cancellar̃ p̃đci domini Regis adtunc ⁊ ibidem sigillari fecit ⁊ demandavit.

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[Rot. Claus. 38 Hen. VI. m. 5. in dorso.

Memorandum, stating that on Monday the 7th of July, 38 Hen. VI. 1460, about the fifth hour after noon, William bishop of Winchester, then chancellor of England, in the presence of the Bishops of Hereford and Durham, and others, surrendered to the King, in his tent, which was then pitched in a field called "Hardingstone Field," near the abbey de Pratis, near Northampton, a Great Seal of silver, which was by the King's command deposited in a chest within his tent, the key whereof was delivered to him.]

D Magno Sigillo R Regi deliƀato. } MEMORAND' q̃d die Lunę videl̃t septimo die mensis Julii circa horam quintam post meridiem anno regni Regis Henrici sexti tricesimo octavo ven̄abilis pater W. ep̃us Wyntoñ tunc cancellarius Angl̃ deliƀavit prefato domino Regi unū magnū sigillum suū argenteum in tentorio suo tunc situato in quodam campo vocato Hardyngstonefeld̃ juxta aƀƀiam de pratis ꝑpe villam Norhamtonie p̃sent̃ tunc ibidem ven̄abilibꝫ p̃ribꝫ J. Hereford̃ ⁊ L. Dunolmeñ custode privati sigilli domini Regis ep̃is mag̃ro Thoma Mannyng secretario R Bartħo Halley ⁊ Will̃o Eltoñ armig̃is, et sup hoc de mandato ip̃ius domini Regis prefatum sigillum positum erat in quadam cista sua in tentorio pred̃co ⁊ clavis eiusdem ciste prefato Regi continuo deliƀat̃.

[Rot. Claus. 38 Hen. VI. m. 7. in dorso.

Memorandum stating that on Friday the 25th of July, 38 Hen. VI. 1460, between the hours of five and six after noon, Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of the Council and others, in a chamber in the palace of Thomas bishop of London, in London, called "le Bisshop's Paleys," surrendered to the King his three Great Seals; namely, one of gold and two of silver, contained in three bags of white leather, which the King, after an interval of a quarter of an hour, delivered to George bishop of Exeter, he having previously taken the oath of Chancellor; that the seals were conveyed by him to his palace in the parish of Saint Clement Danes without the bar of the New Temple, London; and that he, on the following day, redelivered two of the said seals, namely, one of gold and another of silver, to the King, by whom they were retained, and that he kept the other, and sealed therewith, on the Sunday following, letters of pardon for William Barton of London, gentleman, otherwise William Barton, late of London, yeoman, and various writs. Printed in the Fœdera, vol. xi. p. 458. It is remarkable that no record appears to be extant of the *delivery* of the Great Seal to the Archbishop of Canterbury between the 7th and 25th July 1460.]

De Sigillis liḃandis. } Memorand' q̃d die Ven̄is videl̄t vicesimo quinto die Julii anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestū tricesimo octavo int̄ horam quintam ꝛt horam sextam post nonam ejusdem diei Thomas archiep̄us Cantuar̄ tocius Angl̄ primas tria magna sigilla ip̄ius domini Regis unū de auro ꝛt alia duo de argento in trib3 bagis de albo corio sigillo ejusdem Archiep̄i sigillatis inclusa p̄fato domino Regi in quadam cam̄a infra hospicium Thome ep̄i Londoñ in civitate Londoñ vocat̄ le Bisshop̄ Paleys in presencia ejusdem Ep̄i Londoñ ac Joh̄is Lincolñ Walt̄i Norwiceñ Georgii Exoñ Joh̄is Cicestreñ ꝛt Joh̄is Roffeñ ep̄oꝝ Edwardi March̄ Ric̄i Warr̄ ꝛt Ric̄i Saꝝ comitum ac Henr̄ vicecomitis de Bourghchier Johannis Beauchamp̄ senescalli hospicii ip̄ius domini Regis Edmundi Grey de Ruthyñ Will̄i Nevill̄ de Faucomberge Joh̄is

Scrop̄ de Boltoñ militum ꝛ alioꝝ ibidem tunc existeñ liḃavit ꝛ ea supª scabellum coram prefato domino Rege deponebat quibꝫ sic depositis idem dominus Rex fco quodam int̄vallo quasi p̄ spacium quart̄ii unius hore captoq; sacr̄o de p̄fato Ep̄o Exoñ modo consueto in presencia preḋcoꝝ archiep̄i ep̄oꝝ comitum militum ac Roḃti Kirkham ꝛ Riči Frystoñ cl̄icoꝝ cancellar̄ ejusdem domini Regis ac qªmplurium alioꝝ ibidem tunc existeñ tria magna sigilla preḋca prefato Ep̄o Exoñ liḃavit ac idem Ep̄us Exoñ receptis eisdem sigillis regiis sigilla illa usq; ad hospicium suū infra parochiam Sc̄i Clementis Dacoꝝ extra barram Novi Templi Londoñ in com̄ Midd̄ secum deferri fecit, et postea die Sabbi videl̄t vicesimo sexto die Julii tunc p̄x̄ sequeñ ḋcus Ep̄us Exoñ tunc cancellarius Angl̄ duo sigilla de preḋcis tribꝫ sigillis videl̄t unū de auro ꝛ aliud de argento in quadam fenestra infra supªḋcam camam coram ḋco domino Rege deponebat quibꝫ sic depositis idem dominus Rex eadem duo sigilla sua sumpsit ꝛ penes se retinebat ꝛ custodiebat predict̄q; Ep̄us Exoñ ḋcm ꝛcium sigillum regium usq; ad hospicium suū preḋcm secum deferri fecit et in die Dn̄ica tunc p̄x̄ sequeñ int̄ horam sc̄dam ꝛ horam terciam post nonam ejusdem diei preḋcm tercium sigillum a baga qua ut predicitr inclusum fuit sumi ꝛ extªhi fecit ꝛ l̄ras p̄fati domini Regis patentes cuidam Will̄o Bartoñ de Londoñ gentilman alias ḋco Will̄o Bartoñ nup̄ de Londoñ yomañ de p̄donac̄oe p̄ om̄imodis p̄dicionibꝫ felonijs tªnsgressionibꝫ offensis ꝛ aliis malefcis quibuscumq; p̄ ip̄m ante vicesimū sextum diem Julii qualitercumq; fcis sive p̄petratis confcas ac nonnulla div̄sa br̄ia in presencia preḋci Roḃti Kyrkham ꝛ alioꝝ sigillavit.

# LIST OF LORD CHANCELLORS DURING THE REIGN OF KING HENRY THE SIXTH, WITH THE DATES OF THEIR APPOINTMENTS, FROM THE PRECEDING MEMORANDA.

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*16th November*, 1 *Hen. VI.* 1422.—

THOMAS LANGLEY, BISHOP OF DURHAM, Chancellor to King Henry the Fifth, surrendered the Great Seal, 28th September, 1 Hen. VI. 1422, and was re-appointed on the 16th November following. He surrendered the Great Seal, 16th July, 2 Hen. VI. 1424.

*16th July*, 2 *Hen. VI.* 1424.—

HENRY BEAUFORT, BISHOP OF WINCHESTER, appointed 16th July, 2 Hen. VI. 1424. He surrendered the Great Seal, 13th March, 4 Hen. VI. 1426.

*16th March*, 4 *Hen. VI.* 1426.—

JOHN KEMP, BISHOP OF LONDON, appointed Chancellor 16th March, 4 Hen. VI. 1426. On the 8th April following he was translated to the see of York.

*8th April*, 4 *Hen. VI.* 1426.—

JOHN KEMP, ARCHBISHOP OF YORK. He surrendered the Great Seal on the 25th February, 10 Hen. VI. 1432.

*27th February*, 10 *Hen. VI.* 1432.—

JOHN STAFFORD, BISHOP OF BATH, appointed 27th February, 10 Hen. VI. 1432. On the

22nd April, 11 Hen. VI. 1433, the Great Seal was delivered to JOHN FRANK, KEEPER OF THE ROLLS, in consequence of the Chancellor's absence in France. The Bishop of Bath was translated to the see of Canterbury on the 15th May. 21 Hen. VI. 1443.

*15th May*, 21 *Hen. VI.* 1443.—

JOHN STAFFORD, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY. He surrendered the Great Seal on the 31st January, 28 Hen. VI. 1450.

*31st January*, 28 *Hen. VI.* 1450.—

JOHN KEMP, ARCHBISHOP OF YORK, appointed Chancellor on the 31st January, 28 Hen. VI. 1450. He was translated to the see of Canterbury on the 10th April, 29 Hen. VI. 1451.

*10th April*, 29 *Hen. VI.* 1451.—

JOHN KEMP, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY. He died 22nd March 1454.

*2nd April*, 32 *Hen. VI.* 1454.—

RICHARD NEVILLE, EARL OF SALISBURY, appointed Chancellor 2nd April, 32 Hen. VI. 1454. Surrendered the Great Seal 7th March, 33 Hen. VI. 1455.

*7th March*, 33 *Hen. VI.* 1455.—

THOMAS BOURCHIER, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, appointed Chancellor, 7th March, 33 Hen. VI. 1455. Surrendered the Great Seal 11th October, 35 Hen. VI. 1456.

*11th October*, 35 *Hen. VI.* 1456.—

WILLIAM WAYNFLETE, BISHOP OF WINCHESTER, appointed Chancellor 11th October, 35 Hen. VI. 1456. Surrendered the Great Seal 7th July, 38 Hen. VI. 1460, when, by the King's command, it was placed in a chest, of which the key was given to the King.

. . . *July*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—

THOMAS Bourchier, ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY, appointed[1] Chancellor between the 7th and 25th July, 38 Hen.VI. 1460. Surrendered the Great Seal 25th July, 38 Hen.VI. 1460.

25*th July*, 38 *Hen. VI.* 1460.—

GEORGE Neville, BISHOP of EXETER, appointed Chancellor 25th July, 38 Hen. VI. 1460, and held that office for the remainder of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, and was re-appointed on the 10th March, 1 Edw.IV. 1461.

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[1] The appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury does not appear to be recorded.

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# INDEX

TO

# OFFICES AND APPOINTMENTS

WHICH OCCUR

IN THIS AND THE PRECEDING VOLUMES.

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*The following Index is chiefly, although not strictly, confined to such Offices and Appointments as could not be classed under or would not be generally expected to be found in the Indices of Names and Places. All Peers, Prelates, Abbots, Priors, and other Ecclesiastics will be found under the head of their respective Titles, Sees, Abbies, Priories, or Benefices, in the Indices attached to the respective volumes. Ambassadors to or from any particular state will be found under the general head of "Ambassadors" hereunder.*

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TO

# THE PREFACES

TO THE

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, AND SIXTH VOLUMES

OF THE

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

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